

Tripoli factions to sign peace pact

DAMASCUS (R) — Two main rival factions in the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli will sign an agreement in Damascus on Monday to end their long-running feud for control of the city, the official Syrian news agency SANA reported Saturday. The agency said representatives of the anti-Syrian Islamic Unification Movement (Tawheed) and the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party met here Saturday in the presence of Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam. They reviewed all aspects of the Tripoli crisis with a view to ending it "radically and comprehensively," the agency said. It said those present agreed on clauses put forward by Mr. Khaddam to be put in final form for the envisaged agreement. It was decided to sign the final agreement here on Monday in Mr. Khaddam's presence. Leaders of the two groups had talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad earlier this week on ways to end their feud.

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Syrians to help locate Wright

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad has ordered Syrian security forces to help find and free Reuters correspondent Jonathan Wright, who disappeared in Lebanon 17 days ago, an official spokesman said Saturday. The president has "issued instructions to the competent Syrian security authorities to exert all possible efforts to help find his abductors, free him and return him to his family," presidential spokesman Jubran Kureih told Reuters.

Ershad arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Bangladesh President Hossain Mohammad Ershad arrived in Baghdad Saturday for a three-day official visit and talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on efforts to end the war between Iran and Iraq. The Iraqi News Agency said President Hussein and senior Iraqi officials met Gen. Ershad at the airport. No statements were made.

Andreotti in Jeddah

JEDDAH (R) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti arrived in Jeddah Saturday for a two-day visit and talks with Saudi Arabian officials on bilateral relations and Middle East affairs, officials said. They said Mr. Andreotti was expected to have talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal later Saturday and meet King Fahd on Sunday.

Diana delivers second son

LONDON (R) — Princess Diana, Britain's future queen, gave birth to a boy Saturday and both mother and baby were well, a hospital spokesman said. The baby weighed 3.1 kilograms, the hospital added. His father Prince Charles, heir to the throne, attended the birth. The baby is the Prince and Princess of Wales' second child and will be third in line to the throne after his father Prince Charles and two-year-old brother Prince William.

Soviets say underwater formations not of lost city of Atlantis

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet divers exploring an area cited as a possible location of the legendary city of Atlantis have found that apparent outlines of streets and walls are no more than natural lava formations, TASS news agency said Saturday. It said researchers using a diving bell and recently carried out 12 missions to explore the submerged Mount Ampere, west of Gibraltar, in order to unlock the secret of its strange appearance.

Iran protests 'attack against pilgrims'

TEHRAN (R) — Iran Saturday protested to Saudi Arabia over what it said was a "brutal attack by Iraqi agents on Iranians" during the recent Muslim pilgrimage to shrines in the kingdom. The national news agency IRNA said one Iranian was killed in the incident, but did not say where or when it took place, or give any other details.

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Masri casts doubts over credibility, moderation of Peres government

By Randa Habib
Agence France Presse

AMMAN — Jordan Saturday strongly expressed dismay over the new government in Israel and called upon Israel's friends in the West to re-evaluate Prime Minister Shimon Peres' credibility as a moderate leader and his readiness to start a meaningful peace process in the Middle East.

In the first official reaction to the formation of the new Labour-Likud "national unity" coalition government which was sworn in Thursday, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri told the French news agency, Agence France Presse, that Jordan still believes that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories in exchange

for total peace, is the only viable basis for any peace negotiations to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But, "with Ariel Sharon and so many hawks in the new government, Israel's friends in the West should reassess Peres' credibility and question his ideas as prime minister of the new government," Mr. Masri said.

The foreign minister predicted that the new Labour-Likud coalition,



Taher Al Masri

because of the complexity of the bargaining process that led to its birth, will inevitably be stricken by paralysis. "Mr. Peres himself has gone on record to say that the new coalition is one of no agreement," Mr. Masri pointed out.

Jordan will maintain steady economic growth, Odeh says

By Leila Deeb
Reuters

AMMAN — Jordan's real economic growth this year will match 1983's 3.8 per cent despite sluggish economic activity elsewhere, particularly in the Arab World, Finance Minister Hanna Odeh said.

He told Reuters in a recent interview that Jordan's increasingly open economy was inevitably affected by outside factors.

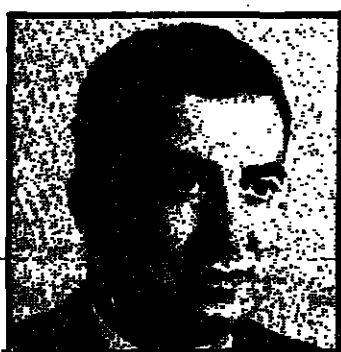
"However, some indicators that we do have lead to the conclusion that the rate of growth attained in 1983 will be maintained in 1984," he said.

The 1983 growth rate was down from 5.1 per cent in 1982.

Jordan's second Five-Year Development Plan ends in 1985 and it is now preparing the third, which presents an opportunity to evaluate past results and modify, and develop policy to reinforce, growth factors in the economy, Mr. Odeh said.

Production, particularly in industry, has improved while exports, especially of phosphates and potash, are rising.

"There is a resurgence in the growth of our exports and a diversification of markets, although we continue to hope that eco-



Hanna Odeh

conomic conditions will continue to pick up in the neighbouring Arab countries," the minister said.

"We also hope for more concerted and coordinated policies in terms of production, industry and agriculture that would enhance complementarity and eliminate areas of duplication," Mr. Odeh said.

He said remittances from Jordanians working abroad were being maintained, "and we hope they will continue to increase."

Remittances rose 5.5 per cent to 403 million dinars (\$1.02 billion) in 1983, covering 45 per cent of Jordan's trade deficit.

But the growth rate was down from 12 per cent as lower world oil prices depressed economic activity in the Arab World.

Mr. Odeh also said he hoped for an upturn in aid from Arab oil producing countries, which has also been hit by lower oil revenues.

He said Jordan had received much less than was pledged by the oil producers to the "frontline" Arab states bordering Israel by the 1978 Arab summit in Baghdad.

But he added Jordan hoped that, with economic conditions improving, they might now be able to resume full aid payments and make up the arrears.

Arab financial aid to Jordan fell 22 per cent last year to 258 million dinars (\$652 million) from 336 million (\$848 million) in 1982.

This situation had forced Jordan to seek \$200 million in a two-tranche loan — \$150 million from a group of international banks and \$50 million from Kuwaiti banks, he said.

But Mr. Odeh noted the low interest rate on the seven-year loans — half a percentage points over the cost of funds to banks in the London Eurodollar market — was evidence of the country's strong financial standing.

"One of the basic tenets of Jordan's fiscal and financial policy is to honour its commitments to the outside world and on time," he added.

Labour, which had been objecting to the Likud policy of building settlements in the occupied territories, had to bow down to outgoing Premier Yitzhak Shamir that "five or six" new settlements be built in the West Bank. Mr. Masri's reference to the "complexity of the bargaining process" appeared to hint that the issue of building further settlements, which requires a majority cabinet vote according to the terms of the Labour-Likud coalition pact, could lead to a deadlock in the Israeli government, in light of the inevitability of Likud pressing for further settlements.

"There are no big differences between Labour and Likud in their policy programmes," Mr. Masri pointed out. "They do not differ on the issue of Jerusalem and the rights of the Palestinian people and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)."

The Labour-Likud pact affirms that the Israeli government would never negotiate with the PLO, which is considered by the Arabs and the Palestinian people as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

Taking the oath of office on Thursday Mr. Peres called on Jordan to enter peace negotiations with Israel with no preconditions, and pledged to withdraw the Israeli occupation forces from Lebanon. However, Mr. Peres' call was met with scepticism among Arab circles who believe that the new Israeli premier will never be able to conduct just negotiations for peace with the Arabs as long as he depended on the Likud hardliners for support without which the coalition will shatter and collapse.

Jordan, Tapline sign oil accord

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and the Trans Arab Pipeline Company (Tapline) Saturday signed an agreement under which Tapline will supply the Kingdom with crude oil. The agreement was signed for Jordan by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat and the director of Tapline on behalf of the company.

Under the agreement, Tapline will provide Jordan with all its domestic needs of crude oil to be delivered to the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. in Zarqa. The oil delivery to the Zarqa refinery is in return of fees estimated at \$25 million a year as direct expenses, provided Tapline guarantees the Kingdom's needs of crude oil.

The signing of the agreement was attended by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Anani and Finance Minister Hanna Odeh.

Lebanon seeks aid

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Lebanese government ministers on Saturday called for massive financial assistance from Arab states and international financiers to rebuild their nation's shattered economy.

The proposal for a government-owned merchant bank providing equity investment in the private sector came during a two-day meeting with over 100 bankers, businessmen and government officials from 24 countries.

The Lausanne meeting saw immediate support for reconstruction and development plans from Dr. Mohammad Imadi, director general of the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

Dr. Imadi said the fund anticipated "a full participation in as many projects as its resources allowed."

Lebanese Minister of National Economy and Industry Victor Cassir told a news conference that Lebanon's industries have suffered losses totalling an estimated 7.5 billion Lebanese pounds during nearly a decade of civil war.



Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker (centre) and Chief-of-Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb receive French Defence Minister Charles Hernu who arrived on a visit to Jordan Saturday (Petra photo)

French defence minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu arrived in Amman Saturday at the head of a military delegation on a visit to Jordan expected to last several days. The minister is expected to meet with Jordanian officials and tour military positions. Mr. Hernu, who is accompanied by his wife, was met upon arrival here by Armed Forces

Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb, their assistants and French Ambassador to Jordan Jacques Alain de Sedouy and French embassy staff.

Soon after his arrival, Mr. Hernu called at the Martyr's Monument on the outskirts of Amman where he was briefed on

the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Mr. Hernu viewed items on display at the Military Museum which reviews the evolution of the Jordanian Armed Forces since the Great Arab Revolt.

Mr. Hernu watered the Tree of Life in the monument's front yard and was presented with the monument's medal.

Israeli official discloses 4-year-old plan to divert water from Wazzani

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel drew up plans more than four years ago to divert water from the Wazzani Springs in South Lebanon but later dropped the idea, fearing it might cause an international outcry, Israeli water commissioner said.

Zemach Ishai also revealed Saturday that Israel "checked into" diverting water from Lebanon's Litani River, 25 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

He said Israel recognised "there may be some sensitivity over" the matter and also decided to abandon the idea because diverting the water would be too expensive.

The disclosures in an Israeli Radio interview came two weeks after former Premier Yitzhak Shamir dismissed as "ridiculous" a Lebanese accusation that Israel was tampering with the Wazzani.

The Lebanese complaint followed reports that Israel was building a "security fence" to annex the Wazzani area which borders on Israel and the Syrian Golan Heights that Israel occupied in the 1967 war.

A United Nations team dispatched to check the area two weeks ago found no evidence of the fence. But Israeli Radio said the fence had been under construction without government authorisation.

The radio quoted a senior military officer as saying the fence was being built "to increase the efficiency of our security system and curb smuggling."

But the work was halted after South Lebanese Army (SLA) militia leader Antoine Lahad warned Israeli, Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Moshe Levy that the fence was likely to have political ramifications, the radio said.

The radio said steel pylons placed along 1,200 metres of territory were uprooted before the U.N. team arrived.

Lt.-Col. Mordechai Safran, an aide to Israel's coordinator with Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, said the radio programme that the planned fence was only for security purposes.

"We weren't trying to annex the Wazzani," Lt.-Col. Safran said.

Mr. Ishai said that Israel had drawn up plans during the 1970s to build a hydroelectric power plant on the Wazzani Spring and to pipe the water directly into Israel.

"This plan has not been carried out for various reasons and is not a first priority in developing the Israeli water system," Mr. Ishai said.

The Wazzani Springs, four kilometres north of the Israeli border, joins the Hasbani River which flows into the Sea of Galilee that provides most of Israel's water supply.

The aim of diverting the water into a pipe Israel was to conserve amounts that evaporate along the way to Israel and "to take advantage of the water flow for energy" purposes, Mr. Ishai said.

Water supply in this semi-arid region is a key issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

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Moroccan poll results show sharp swing to left

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — Morocco's government took a sharp swing to the left Saturday as a result of the country's first parliamentary elections in seven years.

The Interior Ministry announced that 63.8 per cent of the 7.5 million registered voters had gone to the polls Friday.

The results showed heavy losses for the two main right-wing parties which dominated the outgoing assembly elected in 1977. The National Centre of Independents of former Prime Minister Ahmad Osman won only 38 seats. The party held 81 seats and was by far the largest group in the previous legislature.

The biggest winner was the newly formed "Constitutional Union" of former Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, a left-of-centre party which was not represented in the old assembly. It won 55 seats, making it the largest party in the new legislature.

Algeria, Mali and Mauritania to discuss Libya-Morocco union, page 2

S.Africans mourn victims of anti-white uprising

SHARPEVILLE, South Africa (AP) — Several thousand chanting blacks carried 34 coffins shoulder-high from two mass funerals to cemeteries Saturday to bury victims of black clashes with police two weeks ago.

The funeral in this dusty township took place a block from the spot where police opened fire on black protesters in 1960 and killed 69 people, turning Sharpeville into a symbol of the black struggle against white-minority rule.

In Cape Town, new State President P.W. Botha named his new cabinet. Majority leaders of the Asian and mixed-race chambers of parliament were put in charge of ministerial councils for affairs affecting their race groups.

Asian Amichand Rajbansi and mixed-race leader Allan Hendricks are the first non-whites to serve so high in a South African government.

Also on Saturday, six opposition leaders spent their third day hiding from security police in the British consulate in the Indian Ocean port of Durban. British diplomats say the six will not be forced to leave.

Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange ordered the men, none of them white, arrested without charges after they helped boycotts of parliamentary elections for Asian and mixed-race minorities.

Strong wind blocks Mont Louis salvage

OSTEND, Belgium (AP) — A stronger wind and sea Saturday again halted the retrieving of the radioactive cargo from the Mont Louis, the French ship that sank three weeks ago.

A spokesman for the Belgian Environment Ministry said three more containers with uranium hexafluoride and one empty tank had been removed during the salvage operation. This made a total of 13 full and 16 empty containers retrieved, leaving 17 containers with uranium hexafluoride still missing.

The spokesman said a new oil leak had developed at the rear of the ship and a slick of between two and three kilometres was drifting towards the Belgian coast.

HOURS OF HAPPINESS

4.00pm-7.00pm

2 FOR 1

Shepherd's Pub

Egypt reaffirms support for negotiated M.E. peace

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt said Saturday it was determined to seek a negotiated overall Arab-Israeli settlement, an Israeli troop withdrawal from Lebanon and an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali outlined Egypt's principal foreign policy objectives in a policy statement to parliament, his first since forming a new cabinet last July.

On the home front, Mr. Ali urged Egyptians to conserve energy, warning that if oil consumption continues to increase at the present 15 per cent rate, Egypt would turn from an exporting to an importing country after 1991.

"Negotiation should replace confrontation and international dialogue should replace the use or threat of force," Mr. Ali told the 358-member parliament elected last May to a five-year term.

"An overall and just peace is not one of several available options but the only available alternative," Mr. Ali said.

He said his government will seek "to complete the peace march towards a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem, with the Palestinian question at its core, an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and termination of the war between Iran and Iraq."

Egypt concluded a peace treaty with Israel in 1979 with U.S. help, but the pact left unresolved the Palestinian problem involving the Israeli-occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Egyptian-Israeli-American talks on Palestinian autonomy

have been deadlocked since 1982 and Egypt has said it will not join in new talks unless Jordan and Palestinian representatives participate.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982 has virtually frozen Egyptian-Israeli relations, leading to Cairo's recall of its ambassador to Israel in September of that year.

President Hosni Mubarak has said he will not send the ambassador back until Israel pulls out of Lebanon, moves to revive overall peace talks and agrees to negotiate on the future of the disputed border area of Tabaa.

Mr. Ali did not refer to these conditions in his statement, but State Minister for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali reiterated them on Friday.

Mr. Ali said his government also will try to "expand the area of understanding with sister Arab states in the interests of Arab unity."

This was a reference to 17 Arab countries which severed diplomatic relations with Egypt following the signing of its treaty with Israel.

Egyptian ties with these countries have improved considerably since Mr. Mubarak took office in 1981 but diplomatic relations remain severed.

"Petroleum" consumption in Egypt has been increasing at the rate of 15 per cent annually," Mr.

Ali said. "This means that in seven years we shall consume our entire oil production and nothing will be left to export."

He clearly implied that after 1991 and if consumption continued to increase, Egypt would have to import oil.

Egypt began exporting crude oil in 1974 and its production has increased steadily to nearly 900,000 barrels daily at present, according to official figures.

Nearly half the oil production is exported. Last year exports fetched more than \$2 billion, making oil the second largest source of foreign currency after remittances from Egyptians working abroad.

"It is necessary to reduce consumption at the national level," Mr. Ali said, adding that oil exploration will be intensified and nuclear power will be used to augment energy resources.

Mr. Ali said the government will cut its spending by 10 per cent to reduce a net budget deficit that stood at 1.3 billion pounds (\$1.5 billion) last year.

He said the government will continue to subsidize essential commodities such as bread, sugar and cooking oil to maintain their present price levels but it may increase taxes on commodities "consumed by high-income groups."

Prices of domestically produced cigarettes were expected to be increased. Smokers on Saturday said they paid about 30 per cent more for some local brands.

The new budget will be presented to parliament on Sunday.



TEARS FOR BASHIR: A Lebanese woman, who attended a memorial service Friday to mark the death anniversary of President-elect Bashir Gemayel, wipes her tears (AP wirephoto)

4 held in connection with Rafah mayor's murder

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Four local Arabs were arrested Saturday in connection with the murder of the mayor of Rafah, who was shot dead Friday while on his way home after prayers in the desert town's mosque, police said.

Mahmoud Kishta, 56, was shot in the head from a passing car and died shortly afterwards in hospital. Police said they were pursuing several lines of inquiry including the possibility that Mr. Kishta was shot by Palestinian commandos.

Rafah, a town of about 80,000 mostly bedouin Arabs on the southern tip of the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, was divided by the Egyptian border in 1982 when the Sinai peninsula, captured by Israel in 1967, was returned to Egypt.

Last month demonstrators in the Israeli half of the town protested against a rise in water and electricity rates.

Mr. Kishta has served a number of terms in office as mayor and has been mainly concerned with local municipal affairs. He has never been identified with any particular political or nationalist Arab movement.

Rafah is regarded by the Israelis as a quiet area where the main security problem is smuggling across the Egyptian frontier.

Police said they had no indication of the killer's motive. Mr. Kishta was walking in a Rafah street when he was shot from a car which raced away and out of the town.

Algeria, Mali and Mauritania to discuss Libya-Morocco union

NOUAKCHOTT (R) — The implications of a recent union between Morocco and Libya will top the agenda at a two day informal summit meeting of the presidents of Algeria, Mali and Mauritania expected to begin Saturday, diplomatic sources said.

The summit, the third in three years, had long been scheduled, but French Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci quoted Malian President Moussa Traore Friday night in Bamako as saying the pact signed on Aug. 13 by Libya and Morocco gave it an extra dimension.

Presidents Traore, Chadli Benjedid of Algeria and Mohammad Khouna Ould Haideralla of Mauritania met in August 1982 and 1983 in Algiers to review economic cooperation.

The three leaders see the union

as an axis aimed at countering a treaty of brotherhood and concord signed by Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania.

Diplomatic sources said they believed Algeria and Mauritania would ask Mali, a vast black African nation which borders both, to join.

King Hassan has said that his moderate country's union with radical Libya was not directed against anyone. But Algeria and Mauritania are clearly worried by its military clause which states that an attack on either of the signatories will be considered as an attack on the other, the sources said.

Algiers and Rabat are at odds over the Western Sahara conflict in which Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for nine years for the

Saudi engineer shot dead in Spain

MARBELLA, Spain (R) — A Saudi Arabian engineer was shot dead and a companion wounded Friday night at a cafe in this southern Spanish resort, police said Saturday.

It was the second shooting attack on Arabs in Spain this week and the fourth this year.

The police said that in the latest shooting a youth who appeared to be an Arab entered the cafe and fired five shots at Nasser Abdul Aziz, 32, and his two Saudi companions. The attacker fled in a car.

Mr. Abdul Aziz died from a bullet in the head and one of his friends, Karim Ibrahim, was seriously wounded in the face.

On Wednesday gunmen wounded a Libyan embassy official in Madrid.

Last month a Palestinian commando chief was shot and badly wounded in the capital. A group calling itself the Islamic Revolutionary Vanguard claimed responsibility for that attack.

On Aug. 6 gunmen attacked a

Kuwaiti businessman in Marbella. They missed their target but his Pakistani chauffeur was killed.

Mr. Abdul Aziz, an employee of the Al Jodir municipal government in Saudi Arabia, was taken to a hospital following the shooting, but died about two hours later.

Mr. Ibrahim was listed in serious condition.

Many wealthy Saudis, including King Fahd, have holiday homes near Marbella in southern Spain.

Moscow accuses Israel of planning mass deportation of South Lebanese

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet News Agency TASS Saturday accused Israel of planning a mass deportation of young men from the area of southern Lebanon it occupies.

The agency said a census taken by the Israeli authorities of people aged from 18 to 28 was the first step in a project to remove men of fighting age from the region.

"The plan designed by the Israeli occupiers envisages the deportation of a first group of some 25,000 young Lebanese," it added. TASS did not say where it believed they would be sent.

But it declared that the programme resembled the way the Nazis had sent hundreds of thousands of people to hard labour

or death camps in occupied Eastern Europe during World War II.

Meanwhile the head of a Soviet committee charged with conducting investigations into Israel's crimes committed in Lebanon and other occupied Arab lands said that these crimes should not go unpunished.

Mr. Vladimir Kodriastiv was quoted as telling a group of Arab journalists in Moscow that Israel's crimes continue on a daily basis in Lebanon, the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip but sooner or later the criminals will face punishment and the destiny of the Nazis.

Two years ago a special committee of world-famous jurists was

set up to investigate Israel's crimes and has reached the conclusion that the Zionists' crimes against the Arabs are designed to exterminate them physically and destroy their material and cultural values, Mr. Kodriastiv said.

He described Israel's crimes as the worst ever witnessed by humanity.

Israel's continued ill-treatment of Arab people, its demolition of their homes, schools, hospitals and the detention of Arabs in concentration camps violate human rights and international principles, and therefore these criminals and their supporters should be tried before an international court," Mr. Kodriastiv said.

Hijacked Iranians return to Tehran

TEHRAN (R) — The remaining passengers and crew of an Iranian airliner hijacked to Iraq a week ago returned home Saturday aboard a chartered Lebanese jet.

The National News Agency IRNA, reporting their arrival, did not say how many were aboard the plane, but Iraqi officials in Baghdad earlier put the number at 65. One passenger and the five hijackers asked for political asylum in Iraq.

The Boeing 727, the second Iranian airliner hijacked to Iraq in two weeks, was seized on a dom-

estic flight between Bandar Abbas and Tehran on Sept. 8.

After being refused clearance to land in Dubai, it went to Bahrain where it refuelled, then Cairo, where the hijackers released 52 hostages. They were flown back to Tehran earlier this week.

Two weeks earlier an Iran Air Airbus with over 200 people aboard was hijacked to Iraq. The passengers and crew were kept in Baghdad for a week before being repatriated.

Iraq, which has been at war with Iran for four years, has said it will

not return any Iranian planes hijacked to Iraq.

In Iraq the passengers and crew were taken on tours of Shiite Muslim shrines during their six days here, as were the 200 passengers and crew of the Airbus hijacked three weeks ago.

One of the hijackers told a press conference on arrival in Baghdad that the hijackers belonged to the Monarchist "Movement for the Freedom and Renaissance of Iran" led by former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar.

Rifaat Assad's exile may be temporary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rifaat Assad, a brother of the Syrian president and a top military figure in the regime, has lost influence as the result of a power struggle but may not be in permanent exile as reported, a U.S. State Department official says.

President Hafez Assad's younger brother has played a key role in the Soviet-backed government as the nation's vice president and head of the elite "Defence Companies," a special military unit

under his personal command and outside the control of Syria's defence establishment.

Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas was quoted earlier in the week as saying in an interview with the West German magazine Der Spiegel that Mr. Rifaat was "forever persona non grata to us" and adding that "if this person had not gone abroad, the army would have struck."

Mr. Rifaat Assad is in Geneva,

Switzerland, and a spokesman has denied that he was in exile. The spokesman, Hamad Khalil, said in Paris that the Syrian vice president was in Switzerland for health reasons and planned to return to Damascus soon.

The U.S. official, who spoke Thursday on condition he not be identified, cited U.S. intelligence reports as suggesting that the reported exile of Mr. Assad's brother "may not be permanent."

Cyprus talks to continue another week

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar says week-long talks with leaders of Cyprus' Greek and Turkish communities have been "serious, businesslike and conducted in a constructive spirit," and will continue for up to another week.

He was speaking to reporters Friday night after concluding five days of separate meetings with Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, representing the island's Greek, ethnic community, and Rauf Denkash, the leader of the Turkish Cypriots.

The so-called "proximity talks" are aimed at ending the division of Cyprus and establishing a federal

system of government.

Reading from a prepared statement, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said: "In my judgment, the talks have been serious, businesslike and conducted in a constructive spirit."

"In the light of this assessment I have invited both sides to continue the proximity talks under my auspices here at U.N. headquarters for up to one more week, with a view to elaborating various elements further. Both sides have accepted my invitation."

The secretary-general, who declined to go into the substance of the negotiations, said the next round of separate meetings would begin on Monday.

He said the objective was to ar-

rive at proposals that could be submitted to "an eventual joint high-level meeting" — meaning a direct encounter between Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denkash, who last met in 1979.

The U.N. chief said he had outlined to the parties a list of substantive matters to be dealt with at this stage and had gone through them systematically with the two sides.

He also made clear that neither side was committed on any of the issues "until the overall approach is fully spelt out and agreed upon."

The negotiations are based on a set of working points submitted to the two sides last month

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 17:30 Korean 17:45 Cartoons 18:00 Children Programme 18:30 How the West was won 19:30 Local Programme 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Arabic Series 21:00 Wrestling 21:30 Arabic Variety 22:00 News in Arabic 23:10 Religious programme FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 Les Affaires Soit Les Affaires 19:00 News in French 19:15 News in Original 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Bob New Hart 21:00 Towards 2000 21:10 War and Peace 22:00 News in English 22:15 Magnum RADIO JORDAN 893 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM A party on 9500 KHz. SW 07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsweek 08:00 Morning Show 10:00 News Summary 10:30 Morning Show 11:00 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Insurance 14:30 Science Report 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals 16:30 Old Favourites 17:00 Evening Show 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Jazz Hour 19:00 Newsweek 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 20:30 News Summary 21:00 Evening Show 21:05 News Summary 22:00 Evening Show 22:30 News Summary 23:00 Evening Show 23:30 News Summary 24:00 News Headlines		TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS * Bulgarian Exhibition of Books and Arts. Exhibition Hall, the Royal Programme Centre. * Paintings Exhibition by Manuel Marino (Swiss) at the Jordan International Hotel from Sept. 13 to Sept. 17. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Centre 44371 American Centre Library 41520 British Council 36147-8 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre 39777 Haya Arts Centre 665195 Hussein Youth City 667181 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.C.A. 65251 Azzam Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555 MUSEUMS Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qafra (Circled Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century Orientalist artists. Muznaah, Jabal Luvabdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Maryam's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, tel. 061 33350, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 06:00 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:30 Agaba (RJ) 09:45 Cairo (RJ) 09:45 Jeddah (RJ) 10:00 Kuwait (RJ) 10:00 Beirut (RJ) 10:30 Berlin, Larnaca (RJ) 10:30 Doha, Riyadh (SV) 14:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN) 14:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:40 Larnaca (RJ) 16:45 Baghdad (RJ) 16:50 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ) 17:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) 17:35 London, Paris (RJ) 17:40 Madrid, Geneva (RJ) 17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) 18:00 Rome (RJ) 18:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN) 18:30 Beirut (RJ) 20:20 Athens (RJ) 20:20 Cairo (MS) 00:45 Cairo (RJ) 01:00 London (RJ) 01:10 Baghdad (RJ) DEPARTURES 05:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 05:45 Cairo (RJ) 06:30 Beirut (RJ) 07:00 Cairo (MS) 08:00 Agaba (RJ) 08:00 Damascus, Paris (RJ) 08:15 Beirut (RJ) 09:00 Damascus, Rome (AZ) 11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) 11:45 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) 11:45 Larnaca, Berlin (RJ) 12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV) 12:30 Larnaca (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:40 Baghdad (RJ) 19:30 Kuwait (RJ) 19:40 Dhahran (RJ) 20:00 Bahrain, Muscat (RJ) 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dhahran (RJ) 17:40 Cairo (RJ)		EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 77511 Blood bank 77511 Fire department 22090-3 Police 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 65990-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport 061 53333 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 44281-4 Akleh Maternity, J. Amn 43441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Maalul, J. Amn 74012-10 Palestine, Shmeisani 66417-4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 The Islamic, Amman 665292 Al-Ahli, Amman 664161 Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511 Army, Marka 91611 GENERAL Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 11	

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet approves new local councils

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has given its approval for the establishment of two municipal councils in Raimoun in Jerash district and M'addi in Balqa Governorate. The approval came in response to recommendations by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi in view of the increases in the population of both towns.

Amman-Aqaba flights continue from QAIA

AMMAN (Petra) — Air flights from Aqaba to Amman will continue via the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) until suitable medium-size planes are purchased for domestic flights, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Transport. He added that plans are underway for buying such planes to operate several flights daily to Aqaba via Amman Airport in Marka. Local papers earlier said that flights to Aqaba will be operated via Amman Airport.

Rawabdeh leaves for Valencia

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Saturday left for the Spanish city of Valencia to hold talks with its mayor on cooperation between European and Arab cities. The Valencia mayor is the chairman of the European Municipalities Union and he will meet with Mr. Rawabdeh and other members of an Arab team that comprises the mayors of Tunis, Riyadh and Tripoli. Following the talks, Mr. Rawabdeh will meet with officials and mayors of Spanish cities to discuss cooperation between Spanish and Jordanian cities.

Industry chamber circulates regulations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry has circulated to industrial institutions the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism regulations regarding the preparation of industrial samples which will take part in the international Baghdad fair scheduled for Nov. 1. The regulations requested that these samples, which will be on display for 15 days, should be of good quality and that they should include all information regarding specifications and conditions of sale and shipping.

Civil defence cautions against chlorine dangers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department has issued an appeal to hotels and other public places which have swimming pools to take extra precautions in the use of chlorine for purifying water in the pools. The department also suggested that special oxygen masks should be at hand to help revive people in case they inhale the gas.

A spokesman for the department said that in the event the gas leaking the whole area should be evacuated and civil defence men should be alerted as soon as possible. Chlorine is a dangerous substance which could lead to death, the spokesman said, and should therefore be handled with care.

Committee prepares for international womens' conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A special committee preparing for the international conference on women, scheduled to be held in 1985 in Nairobi, Kenya, Saturday discussed a strategy until the year 2,000 for raising the standard of women.

The committee also set up sub-committees to study the health conditions of women and their work in various fields.

The committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an, looked into the conditions of women and children in the occupied Arab lands, especially women refugees.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi (second from right) opens a training course for heads of village councils in Mafraq, Jerash and Ajloun districts Saturday (Petra photo)

Nabulsi opens management course for village councils

JERASH (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi Saturday opened a four day training course for heads of villages in Mafraq, Jerash and Ajloun districts.

Participants will be briefed on the management of villages' financial and organisational matters and on local government affairs.

In a speech at the opening session, the minister said that the village councils should be careful in implementing organisational plans and urged them to intensify efforts for public safety, cleanliness and for building bridges between local councils and the citizens.

Jordanian businessmen to attend Austrian finance talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation of Jordanian businessmen is due to leave for Austria on Tuesday to take part in a meeting on banking due to open on Sept. 19.

The meeting, organised by the Arab-Austrian relations society in cooperation with the Jordanian-Austrian society, will discuss matters connected with banking and financial issues of concern to Jordan and Austria that would help promote bilateral ties.

The Jordanian delegation will include the president of the Jordanian Austrian friendship society, Mr. Abdul Ghani Abu Jura, Post Office Savings Fund Director Abdullah Al Hawandeh, the society's secretary and lawyer, Mr. Hisham Al Tal, who represents the society's administrative section.

GUVS forms working team of specialists

Obeidat supports proposed cancer treatment centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Saturday voiced his government's interest and support for the work of social and humanitarian work in Jordan and supported the idea of establishing a centre for the treatment of cancer.



Abdullah Al Khatib, who came up with the idea of housing the centre at the university's hospital and initial plans have been laid down for its programmes.

In a message he sent to Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, chairman of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan, Mr. Obeidat said that he was grateful for the union's decision to set up a working team to establish a specialised clinic for the treatment of cancer at the University of Jordan Hospital, and welcomed the idea of serving as an honorary member of the team. Mr. Obeidat also expressed hope that the government will be able to take measures to help in implementing the project along with other humanitarian plans.

The GUVS executive board had earlier set up a work team in cooperation with Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni, University of Jordan Hospital Director Rizq Al Rashdan and several local physicians and specialists, including Dr. Musleh Tarawneh, Dr. Abdullah Oweidi, Dr. Fares Madanat from the University of Jordan Hospital and Dr. Nabil Moammar from the private sector. GUVS Chairman Abdullah Al Khatib and two other representatives from the private sector, University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali has welcomed the idea.

Madaba telephone network expected to be completed this month

MADABA (Petra) — The laying of an internal telephone network inside Madaba city is expected to be finished by the end of this month, according to a spokesman for Madaba Telecommunications Department. He told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the technical workshops of the project are currently installing telephones for houses in preparation for linking the network with the electronic telephone switchboard.

The telephone switchboard capacity is 6,087 telephone numbers among which 3,000 are for residential settlements in the district, he pointed out. There are 1,600 telephone lines currently connected with the semi-electronic switch board which will be connected with the network, the spokesman added.

Number of road accidents rises, traffic bulletin says

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 1,494 road accidents occurred in Jordan in July causing the death of 73 persons and the injury of 820 others compared with 1,368 accidents in the same month of last year which caused the death of 69 persons and the injury of 800 others, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Traffic Department Saturday.

The bulletin said that the rise in the number of accidents, which registered a 9.2 per cent increase, was mainly due to speeding, wrong overtaking and reckless driving.

39,880 non-Jordanians obtain work permits in six months

AMMAN (Petra) — The total number of work permits issued to non-Jordanians in the first half of this year was 39,880 against 30,300 in the same period of last year, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Labour.

The spokesman said that the increase is due to the recently introduced amendment to the Labour Law which requires all non-Jordanians to obtain permits for working in the country. Out of the work permits issued, 70.3 per cent went to Arab nationals, mostly males, the spokesman said.

Most of the 3,250 work permits issued to females, he said, were for domestic work while most of those issued for male workers were for employment in the construction, business and agricultural sectors.

Cerebral Palsy Foundation aims to raise funds through media campaign

AMMAN (Petra) — Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) President Fakhr Al Belbeisi said that the foundation will launch a full-scale media campaign on cerebral palsy day, which falls on Oct. 4. He pointed out that, for the first time in Jordan, the CPF last year obtained approval from the Ministry of Social Development to consider the first Thursday of October each year as the national day for information about cerebral palsy.

On this day there will be awareness campaigns about cerebral palsy and its causes, methods of preventing it, the possibility for helping children who have brain damage and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment to obtain the best results.

Public effort

Mr. Belbeisi also called all institutions and citizens to contribute towards bringing success to the CPF efforts on that day. He also urged youths, university and school students to help in collecting donations from citizens to help the foundation develop its works and to build a centre for evaluation and rehabilitation of those affected by cerebral palsy.

Aqaba maintains successful balance between commercial, business, port activities despite limited available space, rapid development

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

This is the second in a series of features outlining the developments in the port city of Aqaba. In this article the port activities, expansion and industry of Aqaba are reviewed.

AQABA — A visitor to the city of Aqaba quickly appreciates the logical allocation of space for different purposes. The centre of the city is reserved for commercial and business activity. The hotels hug the northern shoreline, the main port takes up the south side of the city, while housing areas expand steadily in a planned manner to the east and north of the town.

This rational expansion of the city is due to the foresight of planners in Amman in the early 1960s, who recognised that the city's inevitable growth and economic diversification would best be served by an early town planning effort. The first complete land-use plan for the city was approved in 1962, and with occasional revisions, has been implemented ever since. It is most obvious, perhaps, in the neat arrangement of the city's different districts, with wide streets and sidewalks, ample parking areas for cars and buses, conveniently grouped commercial areas and housing districts fully served by water, sewage and electricity networks.

A land-exchange agreement with Saudi Arabia in the early 1960s gave Jordan an additional 21 kilometres of Aqaba coastline, south of the main port. This area has also been strictly planned with allocations of land for port, industrial, touristic, residential and scientific research purposes. The first stretch of coastline has been used to expand the port, and includes the new container terminal, passenger berths for ferries that link Aqaba with Egypt and jetties

for the import of fuels. Immediately after the port area are two science stations: the Royal Scientific Society's solar energy research centre, and the Marine Biology Research Station that is jointly run by the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University. The marine station includes a public aquarium displaying hundreds of species of fish, eels, turtles, snakes and other marine life from the Gulf of Aqaba, and associated displays of shells.

Port growth

The rapid growth of the Jordanian economy in the mid-1970s required a major expansion of the port, the economic lifeblood of the city. The modern port started its life in 1939 as a simple facility for imports that were unloaded from ships onto lighters that were then towed in and unloaded on lighterage berths. The first proper port was built in 1952 and expanded several times in the 1950s and 60s. By 1980, the port had been expanded again to include 10 general cargo berths, two floating berths for containers and two phosphate loading berths.

The latest expansion project, completed this year, sees the entry into service of a 540-metre-long container and roll on-roll off terminal with two gantry cranes and eight straddle carriers, capable of handling the giant, third-generation gearless container vessels that are the future of global shipping. The port handled 2,454 ships last year, moving just over six million tons of imports and four million tons of exports. This

year it expects to handle nearly seven million tons of imports, and over five million tons of exports.

The biggest export item is raw phosphate rock, of which 3.68 million tons were exported last year, with exports this year expected to reach over five million tons. The phosphate rock is trucked and railed in to Aqaba from the Hama and Wadi al Abyad mines in the centre of the country, stored in six dockside warehouses, and loaded via three high-speed loaders onto ships that pull up to the two phosphate loading berths.

Mr. Adel Sharie, manager of the phosphate operation in Aqaba, recalls that loading phosphate trucks in from the Ruseifa mines near Amman was spread out on the dock to dry in the sun, transferred to barges via a small conveyor belt, and finally lifted from the barges to the offshore ships in small baskets carried on the backs of manual labourers. "To load 200 tons a day was a big achievement back then," he says today, when tens of thousands of tons are loaded onto ships on some days.

Port Director Mardi Qatameen explains that the expanded port can easily handle anticipated traffic until 1995, with about half the imports offloaded at Aqaba heading for other Arab states, notably Iraq. Competitive rates, advanced facilities, no waiting periods for ships to dock, and improved handling and administrative techniques are the key elements in Aqaba's strategy to carve out for itself a lasting role as an important Middle Eastern transit port, serving Jordan and other Arab states.

Industry

Along with handling imports and transit traffic, the port has also recently become a vital export point for Jordanian industrial



Ships docked at the general cargo berth of Aqaba port (Photo Rami G. Khouri)

products and minerals, some of which are produced at Aqaba itself. The very southern end of the 21-kilometre south coast has been transformed into a productive industrial zone dominated by the huge chemical fertiliser plant owned and operated by the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company Ltd. It buys over a million tons a year of raw phosphate rock from the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, and transforms it into phosphoric acid and mono-ammonium and di-ammonium phosphate.

The \$425 million plant started operation in 1982, and at full capacity will produce and export 740,000 metric tons of fertiliser and 105,000 tons of phosphoric acid per year. The plant's adjacent pier is also being used to export the output of the Arab Potash Company, located some 250 kilometres north of Aqaba, along the shore of the Dead Sea.

The Jordan Timber Processing Industry Company has also started its operations next door to the

fertiliser plant. It imports raw logs and transforms them into finished wooden products, such as sawn timber, plywood, and chipboard. And next door to it will be the new 400 MW thermal power station that will be completed in the coming two years, to provide electricity for all of south Jordan and also link up with the national power grid.

In between the port area near the city and the southern industrial zone, the future touristic expansion zone of Aqaba will be developed in coming years. This is an area of almost seven kilometres of untouched sandy beaches, facing some of the most beautiful underwater coral and marine life scenery in the world.

THE COOPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY FOR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS TENDER INVITATION

The Cooperative Housing Society for Professional Associations, wishes to invite tenders for the construction of its Housing Project in Zone 7, Um Dbaa, Tila Al Ali, in Amman Region.

All local building contractors in Class I or above (according to the Ministry of Public Works Classification for 1984), and foreign contractors of equivalent qualifications wishing to participate in this tender, are invited to obtain the tender documents from the office of Jafar Tukan & Partners, located on Shaker Ben Zeid Street (Villa Rosa), Shmeisani, Tel. 664668, 665214, for a non-refundable fee of JD 500.-, as of Saturday, Sept. 15, 1984.

All local contractors are required to produce a copy of their classification certificate prior to receiving the tender documents. Foreign contractors may submit a copy of their company qualifications.

All completed tenders should be submitted to the office of Jafar Tukan & Partners not later than Sunday, Oct. 14, 1984 at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 14, 1984 at 10:00 a.m.



Phosphate bulk — loading facilities at Aqaba (Photo Rami G. Khouri)

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Personnel Section
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Editor:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Senior Editor:
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

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Do we have a population problem?

By Fahed Fanek

JORDANIANS ARE growing at the highest rate in the world. This sounds like a sweeping statement, but it is very true.

In 1952 the population in the East Bank was 586.2 thousand. It reached 2.5 million by the end of 1983. In these 31 years the net compound rate of population increase averaged 4.8 per cent per annum. Around 1.1 per cent p.a. of this increase represents migration from the occupied territories, and 3.7 per cent net natural growth, being the difference between the crude birth rate of 40 and the crude death rate of three per thousand.

It may be stunning to note that married women, 45-49 years old, have in average

given birth to 8.2 live children each. For each registered death in 1983 there were 13.3 births! Very high fertility coupled with improved health and medical services.

If these rates persist during the near future, the labour market will receive some 35,000 rising in seven years to 70,000 new comers every year, and reaching 100,000 in the year 2000. The question is of course whether or not the Jordanian economy can generate enough jobs for this number every year, especially when working abroad is showing a negative growth for obvious reasons.

The Jordanian economy has

to grow indefinitely at a minimum of eight per cent per annum in real terms in order to accommodate the additional manpower and keep improving the standards of living. This high rate of economic growth was hardly achieved during the last 10 years 1973-1982, thanks to the generous Arab financial aid which is now drying up.

However any sustained rate of growth from now on, in excess of four-five per cent is unrealistic to say the least.

To make the issue, more clear we can use simple arithmetic to find out that if the net rate of growth of 3.7 per cent continues, the population

of Jordan will reach 95 million in 100 years. In other words, this astounding rate is able to double the population every 19 years.

Some social or political leaders may like to think of the increase of population as a source of national strength and pride. As a matter of fact the weakest and most backward and poor nations are on top of the list when it comes to growth or absolute numbers. The European nations on the other hand are now experiencing a zero growth of population, and accordingly enjoying a comfortable stability. They concentrate on improving the quality of life, while the poor peo-

ples of Africa and Asia are starving and overgrowing in misery.

The exceptions I can concede on national grounds are the desired growth of Arabs living under occupation where their national identity is threatened, or in the Arabian Gulf region where wealth is abundant but security is threatened due to low density of nationals.

We are always told not to worry because the progress and new technology will help — as it did in the past — in generating more goods and services to cater for the population growth, but we are worried to find in the World Atlas

that 18 countries (one Arab) are now experiencing a decline in per capita income. The list may swell dramatically during the next five years. Africa's food production per person has fallen by 11 per cent since 1970.

Should we in Jordan do something to curb growth of population and concentrate on the quality rather than quantity? Should we have an established policy for this purpose? It is still immature and unrealistic to think in these terms, but it is worth our while to blow the whistle, and state that (may be) there is something wrong and alarming going on that deserves to be looked into.

2 years after the massacre:

ON THE second anniversary of the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, we remember not only the fallen dead and the tragic ordeal of those Palestinians and Lebanese who survived it. We also remind ourselves of the fact that the perpetrators of the massacres are still free. They roam the streets of Beirut and Jounieh and reside in government mansions in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Who would have thought that Ariel Sharon, the man who was largely responsible for the heinous crimes in the two camps two years ago, and who was condemned by his own people, would today be a senior minister in an Israeli "national unity" government, supposedly headed by a "moderate"? Who would have thought that the bloodied hands of the "Lebanese Forces" which massacred the innocent old men, women and children in Sabra and Shatila still today enjoy the freedom to kill and murder and repress inside and outside Lebanon?

The massacre of Sabra and Shatila was another link in a long chain of massacres committed by the Zionists in Palestine and elsewhere. The Palestinian blood spilled in Deir Yassin, Dweimeh, Qalqileh and Housan and other dozens of places bear witness to Israel's nature, marked by the lust to hate and kill Arabs.

The world community denounced the massacre at Sabra and Shatila as one of the ugliest ever committed against mankind in contemporary history. An official Israeli enquiry into the massacre proved official Israeli responsibility, albeit "indirectly," for it, and squarely put the blame on Israeli military and extremist Falangist elements. It was disclosed at the time that the criminals who entered the camps had used knives, daggers, axes and ropes in addition to firearms to commit their despicable crime which stands out as a stigma of shame for humanity in this century.

The crime in Sabra and Shatila two years ago completely discredited earlier claims and falsehoods about Israel's democracy and the humanitarian nature of the Israeli soldier. Due to the grotesque proportions of the crime, the Israeli leadership tried to shift the blame and responsibility for the crime on their allies, the Falangists, but the truth was bound to come out as it did.

But if the Israeli society itself refused to absolve Sharon and his aides from the crimes in Beirut, how can this society accept Sharon and his likes to be at the head of their administration and their military establishment? If those politicians and Israeli pacifists had opposed the war, the siege of Beirut and the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, why then do they allow the criminals to be rewarded for their deed?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Frustrating PLO differences

THE PROJECTED Palestine National Council's meeting scheduled for the end of this month is likely to be postponed because of lack of agreement among Palestinian groups on the purpose of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed. This means that the Palestinian groups still differ among themselves over such a meeting and its objectives, despite the numerous events in the Middle East region which necessitate such a meeting. So many dangers are inherent in further delaying the council's meeting not only for the Palestine Liberation Organisation and its future programmes but also for the people in the occupied Arab lands.

The Arab people under Israeli rule should not lose confidence in the PLO and its struggle against the Zionist enemy, and these PLO groups should liberate themselves from the influence of Arab states and should act freely so as to preserve PLO's credibility.

Disagreement among Palestinian groups strangely enough coincides with agreement among Israeli parties to form a coalition government. So, the criminals are in agreement as their victims are in disarray because they fail to implement the Algiers and the Aden agreements which laid down the future relationship among the various PLO groups. The greatest danger facing the PLO at the moment is the internal conflicts and divisions among the Palestinian groups. An agreement on the council's meeting should serve as a first step towards mobilising Palestinian action and struggle against the common enemy.

Al Dustour: Aggressive U.S. schemes

REPORTS ABOUT United States intention of deploying nuclear missiles in Israel are very serious as this step would carry the Arab-Israeli conflict into a new phase of struggle. Israel, which is already saturated with advanced weapons and U.S. war machines, is now being transformed into a nuclear base for the United States to enable Washington to impose its hegemony over the weak Arab and Islamic nations.

We are not surprised at Israel's lust for weapons and war but we are really wondering what drives the United States to take such an irresponsible action which is bound to endanger world peace. Is it not enough that Washington supplies Israel with most sophisticated weapons to launch further aggressions on the Arab Nation? Is it not enough for Washington to offer all kinds of financial and economic assistance to Israel to enable it to pursue its aggressive policies against the Arabs? Washington's move is bound to involve our region in more complicated and more dangerous types of wars that threaten to engulf the whole world.

Sawt Al Shaab: More effective service

DEVELOPMENT OF the civil service system started to assume a new and true dimension with the formation of a royal commission to reorganise the various government departments and prepare them to cope with the requirements of the country's national development plan. The reorganisation of the civil service system in Jordan is bound to help promote the economic and social development and provide a better management for public projects.

The new system is expected to be based on decentralisation with the purpose of bolstering local provincial rule and ensuring public participation in various government responsibilities. The reorganisation of the system is bound to transform different government-run departments into active cells, led by a common blood that is destined to serve national interests. In the reorganised civil service system, the government employee will have to play a key role in development and act as a tool for maintaining the momentum in all public projects.

Veto damages U.S. influence, threatens upsurge of violence

By Andrew Tarnowski
Reuter

BEIRUT — Washington's veto last week of a Security Council resolution on South Lebanon has dealt a new blow to U.S.-Lebanese relations and threatens a violent fresh onslaught against Israeli troops there.

Political analysts here say it has weakened the position of America's remaining friends in Lebanon while simultaneously strengthening those who see Syria as its only worthwhile ally.

Shi'ite Muslims, angry at the veto and despairing of diplomatic efforts to curb Israel's occupation of the South, threaten a wave of suicide car bomb attacks on Israeli troops.

Reacting angrily to the U.S. move, Nabih Berri, Lebanon's minister for the South and head of

the Shi'ite militia Amal, said he had 50 men ready to launch such attacks.

In a separate anonymous threat, "Islamic Jihad" (holy war), which has claimed responsibility for devastating past attacks on U.S. targets, also said it would hit American or Israeli installations in the Middle East in reprisal.

Speaking Thursday at a rally of Shi'ite militiamen in Beirut, Mr. Berri said the veto had strengthened those in Lebanon who favoured violence over diplomacy to liberate the South.

"I have begun issuing orders to more than 50 young men like Bilal Fahs," he said, referring to a 20-year-old, a hero to many Lebanese Muslims, who died in June crashing a car bomb into an Israeli patrol and wounding several soldiers.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami

also hinted at a possible tough new government line on the South. He said it would "act speedily and make security arrangements to embark on moves designed to oust the occupiers from our territory."

"And this is the least we will do," Mr. Karami added.

Despite heading a pro-Syrian government, Mr. Karami has for months carefully nurtured relations with Washington. But the veto, he said, had "exposed the true face of America."

He plans to attend the U.N. General Assembly this month to seek further action on the Israeli occupation.

Mr. Karami has made liberation of the South a central aim of his government. He and other Muslim leaders say the resolution was the least Lebanon could have asked in seeking U.N. help.

Mr. Karami made clear his bel-

ief that Washington had isolated itself at the United Nations and suffered a moral defeat.

Lebanon's humanitarian complaint against Israel had been vetoed "by the biggest democratic country in the world that claims it supports peoples' rights and defends their fate," he said.

"America's stand of using the right of veto against a humanitarian resolution ... affects America more than Lebanon," Mr. Karami said, accusing Washington of "shamefully" defending "inhuman, fascist and Nazi" practices by Israeli troops.

For Mr. Berri, who pressed hardest for action at the U.N., "there was nothing weaker than the words addressed at the Security Council."

Saying it was the first use of a veto against "humanitarian demands," he said the U.N. General

Assembly should reconsider the right of veto in the Security Council.

In fact, the Lebanese resolution neither demanded Israel's withdrawal nor condemned the occupation. It demanded that Israel comply with international conventions on treatment of civilians under wartime occupation and stop the isolation of the South from the rest of the country.

"That an occupied people should not even be allowed to cry for help is a political massacre," Mr. Berri declared.

"Our complaint itself was so fragile that it was a defeat for Lebanon," he said, referring to the watering down of the resolution before the vote.

"But the American veto turned it into a victory," Lebanon should respond "thru-

ough greater solidarity with friendly and sisterly Syria," he added.

Ex-Premier Shafiq Al-Wazzan, an influential Sunni Muslim leader who until last April followed an anti-Syrian line in alliance with Washington, also said the veto "strengthens ties between Syria and Lebanon."

Washington's argument that the resolution ignored other Lebanese problems including Syria's presence in parts of Lebanon was "the strangest comment we have heard," he said.

"Does the U.S. want to be more Lebanese than the Lebanese themselves?" Mr. Wazzan asked.

"In Lebanon we will continue to refrain from comparing the Israeli occupation and the Syrian presence for many reasons known to American politicians," he added.



Talks with Gromyko -- a Reagan risk

By Jeffrey Antevil
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has taken a calculated political risk in agreeing to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, a hardened veteran of diplomatic warfare, just five weeks before the U.S. elections.

If the Sept. 28 talks go ahead and produce even faint signs of renewed U.S.-Soviet dialogue, Mr. Reagan will defuse the issue of his unwillingness to talk to Moscow with which his Democratic party opponent, Walter Mondale, has attacked him.

But political and foreign policy analysts were quick to add that if the White House meeting fell through or ended in recriminations, Mr. Mondale would have fresh ammunition for his campaign charge that Mr. Reagan was a threat to peace.

The president and his political advisers are clearly betting that this will not happen or that if the talks turn sour he will be able to

put the blame on Mr. Gromyko and the Kremlin.

"It is a political plus for us — no question about it," House Republican leader Bob Michel said in a comment echoed privately by some Democrats.

Mr. Gromyko is due to meet Mr. Reagan two days after meeting Secretary of State George Shultz at the United Nations.

Mr. Michel told reporters that the meeting "displays all this business that the president is unwilling to talk and is unyielding and unbending."

Mr. Mondale has said repeatedly that Mr. Reagan is the first president in 50 years who has not met his Soviet counterpart and that the first of either party since the (atomic) bomb went off never to have negotiated arms controls.

This will still be true when Americans vote on Nov. 6. Nuclear arms talks have been suspended since Soviet negotiators walked out late last year and both governments have recently reaffirmed that there is no likelihood

of an early meeting between Mr. Reagan and Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko.

But Mr. Mondale's political charge will have lost much of its sting if Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gromyko hold reasonably positive talks.

Presidential advisers as well as critics are troubled, however, by the question why Moscow has dropped its cold shoulder treatment and agreed to the talks.

Mr. Reagan told reporters: "You will have to ask them what their reasons are for accepting."

Many U.S. officials echoed the assessment of Western diplomats in Moscow that the Kremlin may have concluded Mr. Reagan is likely to be elected to another four-year term and they might as well start dealing with him now.

Republican Charles Percy, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that now that the Soviet leaders "are convinced the president is going to be reelected they feel that dialogue,

continuing dialogue, is in their interest."

Some officials had made the point in June when Moscow unexpectedly proposed talks on banning weapons in space.

One Soviet Embassy official told Reuters then that Mr. Reagan "is going to win anyway and we have got to do what is in our best interests." The space weapons proposal broke down, however.

A few U.S. analysts went further, saying Soviet agreement to the meeting may signal a defeat for hard-line forces in the Kremlin. Some said Mr. Gromyko himself was a leader of this group along with Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov while Mr. Chernenko apparently was more receptive to a new dialogue.

But others advanced the theory that the planned meeting is an attempt to embarrass Mr. Reagan and that Mr. Gromyko intends to accuse him of intransigence and storm out of the talks or cancel them at the last minute.

Possible return of dissident leader shakes S. Koreans

By Granville Watts
Reuter

SEOUL — Mention the name of Kim Dae-Jung in South Korea and people tend to roll their eyes, peep over their shoulders or, in the case of government officials, turn slightly pale.

Flushed with the nation's unexpected success with a 10th medals place in the Los Angeles Olympics and with the economy booming again, the last thing the government wants is the return of the country's leading dissident.

Mr. Kim, 58, has spent the last two years in exile in the United States, but recent statements that he intends to return to Seoul this year sent ripples through an otherwise dull political scene.

Elections for the largely rubber-stamp national assembly are expected early next year by the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) virtually certain to retain its majority.

Although members of two opposition parties occasionally ask embarrassing questions of the government in parliament, the "real opposition", as it calls itself, operates outside the national assembly.

This is a group of 99 politicians who have been banned from all political activity until 1988.

The group includes the exiled Kim and his former rival, ex-opposition leader Kim Young-Sam, the country's next best known dissident, who staged a 23-day hunger strike last year to demand a return of democracy.

The two Kims, who are not related, have buried former differences and joined together to form a new organisation called the Council for Democratic Progress (CDP) which says it wants dialogue rather than confrontation with the government.

But a government spokesman said the government of President Chun Doo Hwan could not enter into dialogue with an illegal organisation.

He said he thought that the government had been "rather generous" in not closing the CDP down altogether.

However ineffective the CDP may be, it would provide some kind of platform and base for Kim Dae-Jung should he carry out his intention to return home.

Mr. Kim told the Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun in a recent interview that he would come back in December after touring Europe despite the risk of being jailed again.

Although he has said he would not run for parliament, Mr. Kim's mere presence in South Korea would stir up the stagnant political scene.

In and out of jail in the 1970s, Mr. Kim challenged the former

strongman, President Park Chung-Hee, in the 1971 presidential elections and won 45 per cent of the popular vote.

A brilliant orator, he could still whip up wide support if he got the opportunity, colleagues say.

The government says it has no plans for dealing with a returned Kim other than letting the law take its course.

This suggests that Mr. Kim would be jailed again as he had served only part of a 20-year sentence for sedition when he was allowed to go to the United States in 1982 for medical reasons.

He was originally sentenced to death for sedition. But this was commuted to life and then 20 years under intense international pressure.

Mr. Kim's return inevitably invites comparisons with Philippines opposition leader Benigno Aquino, who was shot dead at Manila Airport last year when he returned from political exile in the United States.

"We don't expect anything like that, but we would like government assurances of his safety," Mr. Kim Young-Sam said.

Kim Dae-Jung met U.S. Under-Secretary of State Elliot Abrams in Washington recently to ask for U.S. protection if he returned to Seoul.

Authoritative sources in Seoul said he was told no such protection could be given. Mr. Abrams' office refused to comment on the meeting apart from confirming it took place.

Shin Sang-Woo, a leading MP of the main opposition Democratic Party (DKP), told Reuters: "The government should guarantee his safe return and freedom in Korea. He should seek dialogue with President Chun Doo Hwan's government and avoid direct confrontation."

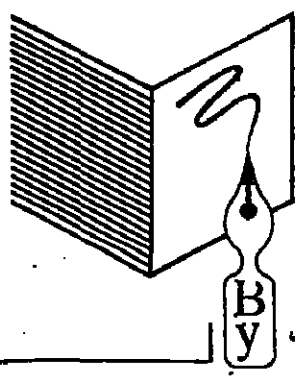
DKP parliamentary leader Im Jong-Ki said: "Basically I welcome Kim back to Korea as this is his homeland, but the timing of his return is very important. If he returns home a couple of months before the scheduled general elections, it may cause division in the opposition forces."

Mr. Kim, who has already said he is not interested in contesting the elections, is more interested in the transfer of presidential power when Mr. Chun's eight-year term ends in 1988.

Although Mr. Chun has promised to stand down, there are widespread opposition fears that he will either retain control or pass it on to another military man.

Kim Dae-Jung would ideally like to make his fourth bid for the presidency in elections which could again usher in full democracy for the country of 40 million people.

Jolly good to live in America but not to die



AMMAN NOTEBOOK

Inad Khairallah

THE OTHER DAY I happened to see an old boss of mine frantically waving at passing cars on the University Road. Much as I disliked his habit of over-exercising his oral nerves — one of the prime reasons I left him — I braked, my car and offered him a lift. He got in, slammed the door and draped the seatbelt and turned to me. "It is nice to see at last you have fixed your seat belt," he said, reminding me of some six months and odd when all I had was a length of leather strap hitched to the back door with the other end rolled around the handbrake. In fact that piece of leather had saved me a number of times from the traffic

police until I managed to locate a suitable seatbelt for my outdated model of a car.

I grunted in reply to my old boss and inquired how come he was stranded on the road, especially that he had some five cars at home — one each for himself and his wife and three others for his five college-going children. "I was not exactly stranded," he made a face. "You know, these days it is not wise to buy automatic cars in this country. No good mechanics, no good garages and you will be lucky to get the right spares. I had to leave my car back there near the bus stop."

He leaned forward and helped himself to a cigarette from

my packet on the dashboard. He lit the cigarette, took a long pull and sighed. "Thank God, I found you. I have some urgent business at the office."

Well, he was mistaken if he thought I was going to drive him downtown, I wanted to tell him, but before I could open my mouth he consoled me: "The traffic downtown has been improved a lot these days, especially that they have reorganised the whole system of 'Entry' and 'No Entry' streets."

I knew he would have cursed the whole system if he was the one to drive me downtown, but reminders of certain instances he had really helped me myself, which meant I was stuck with him until the door of his office. I hoped he would enjoy the scenery on the roadside and spare me the agony of listening to his non-tiring tongue.

For a couple of minutes I really thought he had mended his ways, but no. "Only last week I got back from the U.S.," he said, adjusting the seat to a most comfortable position, and I knew he was not a bit changed, and I was in for a full treatment. I tried to pretend I did not hear him, but he knew better, for he poked me with his finger and continued: "It's really great to live in the U.S. Everything is perfect. The roads, the cars, the people... and even the water."

"Do you know how much I paid for an air ticket from Boston to Los Angeles — a trip that lasted over two and a half hours? Less than 23 dinars," he sighed. "You can't drive a camel for 23 dinars in this country. Can you?" I said I had not tried. "Let us take 'benzine'."

For about one dinar and a half you can buy a 'tanaka' of super 'benzine' in the U.S. — less than half of what you pay here in the Middle East amidst the wealthiest reserves of oil. Isn't it ironic? He looked at me. "And add to that the quality of the 'benzine'! It's so clear that you would feel like drinking it." Well, I said, I had still to hear people drinking "benzine," no matter how pure it was.

He looked cross for a second, but it did not change his pursuit of praise for life in the

U.S.

"The best thing I like about the Americans is that they don't bother you," he continued. "You are free to do what you want, as long as you don't pry on other's affairs. No-one bothers about what you are, what you do, where you come from, where you go."

I thought that would have been the end of his narration, but the next moment proved I was wrong. "You don't know how cheap things in the U.S. are," he started off again, "all it needs is just \$100 to buy all the groceries you need for a family of five or six for a month, and the best part of it is that you can buy everything you want from a single supermarket."

"And look at the quality of food you get there," he continued, "the best juices, the best meat, the best vegetables and the best canned stuff."

"You can't buy enough four and hummus here for \$100," he shook his head. He could be right, I told him, especially that he had a family of 14.

"There can be no comparison between supermarkets here and those in the U.S.," he

continued, "Put 10 of these supermarkets together and still you will be well short of one section of an American supermarket." It was possible that he had visited an export warehouse, I wanted to tell him, but then thought better of it.

By then we were caught in a traffic snarl and this got him going again. "You can't compare this traffic with that of the U.S.," he said, looking disgusted at the cars around. "It's so well organised that you just can't drive slow." But then there would be a lot of accidents if everyone drove too fast, I told him. "There are speed limits of course," he corrected me, "but somehow I get confused over kilometres and miles, as is the system in the U.S." That could be one of the reasons he felt things were cheaper in the U.S., especially that he would have bought things in pounds thinking it was kilograms, I suggested.

"Never mind kilograms and pounds," he said, "you will be surprised to see the way Americans spend their leisure."

"You know my son is stu-

dying in Los Angeles and he is staying with an American family as a paying guest. The host is a truck driver, but you would think he is an oil tycoon," his eyes went wide. "He has such a big villa that I was really surprised to hear it cost him only \$40,000 and that too he was paying in instalments over 15 years. My villa here cost me about half a million dinars and I had to dole out hard cash."

That was tough luck, I commented. "It is not the question of luck," he retorted, "all it needs is a little hard work."

"Well, this guy I was talking about," he continued, "does not work on Saturdays and Sundays. He takes his family out on a picnic or goes riding. He has two horses too."

I couldn't care less if he had an elephant. I tried to tell him, but he waved me aside.

"Perhaps you do not know how easy the Americans take life," he said. "Here in the Middle East, we work all our lives and what do we get at the end? Nothing."

Well, he had a half-a-million-dinar villa, I wanted to point out, but the thought that he might start another bar-

rage on the villa and its merrits stopped me.

"Like I said earlier, no-one bothers you in America," his monologue continued, "no nosy neighbours to be uneasy about the morals of the guy living next door, no-one to ask you who your latest visitor was and who left at 2 a.m. in the morning."

By then we had reached downtown and as I slowly cruised down the main street to find a proper stop so that he could get down, I asked him: "If things were so good in the United States, why did you come back? You can always choose to live there permanently."

He had opened the door and on the verge of getting down. My question stopped him for a second. "You know, what is the use of all that comfort in life in the U.S. when you don't know how long you have got to live?" How was that? I asked.

"Well, for all you know, someone could rush into the restaurant you are eating at and start blazing away with a machinegun any time of the day or night."

A 5-day work week is sobering thought for Japan workaholics

By Clyde Haberman

TOKYO — A government advisory council has recommended that hard-labouring Japan move more rapidly towards a nationwide five-day work week, a goal not likely to be achieved easily in a country where six-day weeks were the firm standard until recently.

While it has been the government's wish for several years that Monday-to-Friday work weeks be adopted, a Labour Ministry study issued last spring showed that only 25 per cent of all workers enjoyed a full two days off each week. Still, the percentage is rising steadily, and most labour experts assume it is only a matter of time before Japan resembles the West more closely in this regard.

But major elements of the advisory group's proposal are likely to arouse controversy and are by no means guaranteed to become official policy. They are expected, nonetheless, to give fresh impetus to a broader national debate, long under way, over whether the Japanese toil too hard or whether their well-known work ethic is eroding.

The panel's recommendations call for changes in the Labour Standards Law to reduce the officially sanctioned work week from 48 hours to 45 hours. At the same time, however, the legally permitted work day would be stretched from eight hours to nine hours.

If adopted, the proposal would mean nine-hour work shifts, five days a week, rather than the present official standard of eight-hour shifts for six days. Although the suggested cut in overall hours is small, the intent seems clear: to nudge Japan towards a five-day week, with further reductions in hours to follow.

In large companies, defined as

those with 1,000 or more employees, a 40-hour, five-day week has already become the norm, as in the United States and other industrial countries.

But less than one in five workers belong to such companies, Japan remaining a country of shops and small concerns despite the attention given to giants such as Mitsubishi and Toyota. In companies with fewer than 100 employees, the Labour Ministry found that nearly 40 per cent of the workers put in at least 48 hours, usually by working all or part of a sixth day each week.

The advisory group's proposal is not intended to be its final one. Considerable discussion is likely over the next year before the government offers specific changes in legal working hours, which have not been altered in 37 years.

Employers, especially in small and medium-size companies, can be counted on to oppose a reduction in work hours to 45 a week. Labour unions, which have long urged a five-day week, will probably regard a nine-hour day as too great a price to pay. Eight-hour days have been the custom for many years, excluding overtime, which Japanese workers accept as a matter of course.

Among the major industrial countries, no work force is more diligent than the Japanese. On average, the Labour Ministry said, employees work 2,116 hours a year, compared with about 1,800 hours in the United States.

That means the typical Japanese works more than an extra month a year compared with the average American. And the figures for Japan do not include overtime or after-hours socialising with colleagues, regarded as critical for maintaining workplace cohesiveness. White-collar workers habitually stay on in the office long after the work day is over.

Whether this drive to work is good or bad has been much discussed here.

More and more Japanese seem to be questioning the continued need for such assiduousness amid obvious prosperity. A woman identifying herself as a 24-year-old housewife in Kawasaki, south of Tokyo, complained in a letter to the newspaper Asahi recently that her husband left home every day at 7 A.M. and did not return until 11 P.M.

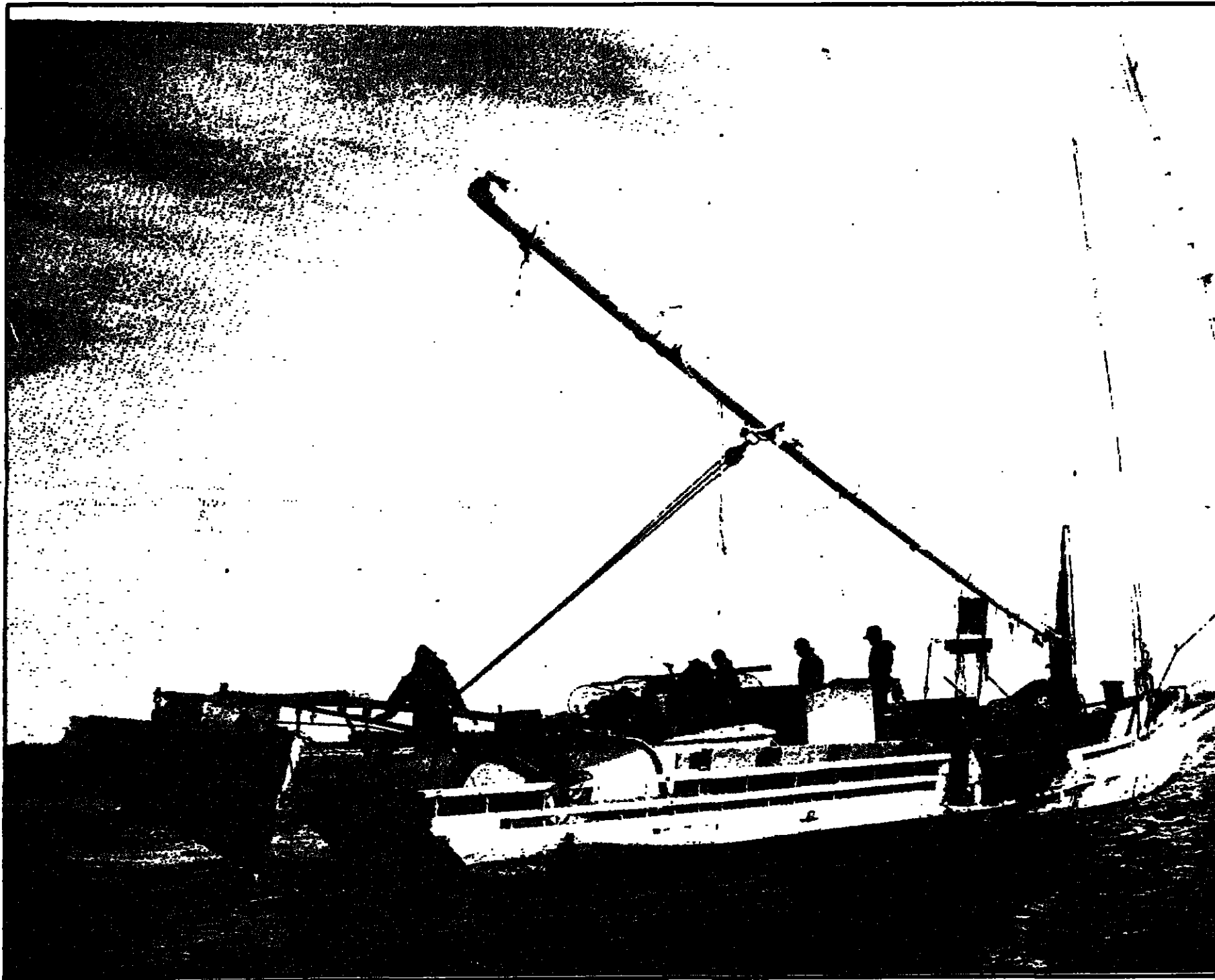
"Can a lifetime devoted to one's work be called meritorious?" she wrote. "I want my husband to enjoy his life, which he can have only once, instead of working like a bee."

In a government opinion poll last year, people were asked, "Would you sacrifice your daily life for the benefit of the company?" Fifty-nine per cent of those surveyed said no. The younger the person, the more likely was a negative response — 68 per cent among those aged 20 to 29.

The government's reasons for promoting a five-day week are embroidered with political considerations. It wishes to alter the image abroad of Japan as a nation of workaholics, enjoying an unfair economic advantage internationally because of the commitment to long hours.

Despite all this, the work ethic appears to be deeply ingrained in this country, a point obvious to anyone who observes the enthusiasm with which even mental jobs are usually performed.

Recognising the resistance to change, the Labour Ministry advisory council recommended that any reduction in work hours not apply to three important industries — construction, transportation and small service-oriented companies. All have yet to trim their basic schedules to even 48 hours a week — New York Times.



Stately skipjack, traditional workboat of Maryland's Chesapeake Bay oyster dredgers, is part of the last commercial fleet still under sail in the country. To conserve declining oyster harvests, Maryland restricts dredging to boats under sail. At the turn of the century when this skipjack was built, there were about 1,500; today, only about 35. (National Geographic photo)

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Rest day for Arab basketball

AMMAN (J.T.) — The participants in the Second Arab Youth Basketball Championship had a rest day Saturday amid a controversy over ages of some of the players. Doubts over the ages of the players arose Friday, and the executive committee of the Arab Basketball Federation decided to take in some players for medical tests to determine their age. Youth players under Arab Federation charter are supposed to be under 19.

Several players from various countries were required to undergo tests stipulated by the federation.

Play resumes Sunday with the following matches: Kuwait vs Palestine; Jordan vs Algeria; Saudi Arabia vs Syria.

Sunday's matches could influence the outcome of the championship with the Syrian-Saudi Arabian contest being the big match of the day.

Jordan suffers heavy defeat

AMMAN (J.T.) — The national Jordanian soccer team suffered a thrashing by China in the Asian Soccer Championships Monday. Six goals, three of which were scored in the first ten minutes of the match sent Jordan crashing to one of the worst defeats under the management of Anthony Banfield. Jordan didn't score.

Spurs joins leaders in English soccer league

LONDON (R) — Tottenham thrashed previously unbeaten London neighbours Queen's Park Rangers 5-0 Saturday — and joined six other clubs fighting for English League Championship supremacy.

Spurs' London neighbours Arsenal and West Ham, joint top before Saturday crashed at Ipswich and Chelsea respectively as the scramble for domination of the first division intensified.

Clive Allen scored twice against his former club as Tottenham lifted themselves from 10th to first place on goal difference.

But Manchester United, newly promoted Sheffield Wednesday, Everton and Aston Villa joined them on 10 points. Arsenal and West Ham were already there.

United emerged from their bruising clash at Coventry with a 3-0 win and their unbeaten record intact.

Wednesday recovered from a 2-0 deficit to scrape a draw at West Bromwich, while Everton went to Newcastle where Scotland international Andy Gray struck the winner two minutes from time.

Champions Liverpool missed a great opportunity to go a point clear of the pack when they let Roger Wilde of Sunderland hit a second half equaliser. Paul Walsh had put them ahead in the 17th

minute. Unbeaten Queen's Park Rangers were humiliated by their London neighbours. Mark Falco struck twice for Tottenham in the 21st and 49th minutes and Mike Hazard added another in the 64th minute.

But it was Allen who broke their hearts. The player rangers sold to Tottenham for £750,000 (\$945,000) at the start of the season was on target in the 57th and 88th minutes.

Two goals from Norman Whiteside and another by Bryan Robson demoralised Coventry. The game was marred by five cautions and the sending off of Coventry defender Brian Kilcline for a second bookable offence after 35 minutes.

Ipswich, looking for their first win of the season, defeated Arsenal 2-1 at home. Russell Osman struck in the 14th minute and Romeo Zondervan, a signing from Dutch soccer, added a second goal in the 30th minute.

Charlie Nicholas replied in the 59th minute but Arsenal were

unable to salvage a point.

West Ham were given a hiding by Chelsea, last season's second division champions.

Colin Lee began the scoring with a twice-take penalty and David Speedie and Pat Nevin settled the match with a goal apiece in the closing minutes.

Everton emerged triumphant from a five-goal thriller at Newcastle via Gray's late winner. Kevin Sheedy and Trevor Steven had twice put them level after Peter Beardsley fired home a 12th minute penalty and Ken Wharton scored a minute into the second half.

Garry Thompson presented West Bromwich Albion with a 2-0 lead with goals in the fifth and 56th minutes, but Sheffield Wednesday were rewarded for their determination when Imre Varadi and Gary Shelton scored.

Watford, still without a win, and Aston Villa shared six goals. John Barnes, Maurice Johnston and Luther Blissett scored for Watford while the visitors replied through Steve Foster, Peter Withe and Steve McMahon.

Southampton beat Norwich 2-1 — their first win of the season. Joe Jordan headed the first after 43 seconds and then Dave Watson obliged with an own goal. Lou Donowa replied for Norwich.

Piggott sets all-time record

DONCASTER, England (R) — Lester Piggott set an all-time record here Saturday when he won the final English horse racing classic of the season, the St. Leger, on the favourite Commanche Run.

It was Piggott's 28th classic success, his eighth St. Leger victory and, fittingly, one of his most superb performances.

The previous record was held by Frank Buckle who rode in the late 18th and early 19th century. Commanche Run took up the running four furlongs from home after pacemaker Librate dropped

away and then held off the sustained challenge throughout the final two furlongs of Steve Causton on Baynour and the late run of Alphabatin and Greville Starkey.

The victory, by a neck and one and half lengths, was a happy end for owner Ivan Allan, the Singapore trainer, who had insisted

Piggott ride the horse instead of stable jockey American Darrel McHargue.

McHargue spent the day playing tennis while Piggott raced into the history books.

Piggott, 48, said: "I was worried one and half furlongs out. Baynour was going better than I was and looked like he was going to win."

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announces

that he has opened his private clinic in the first floor of Shabsough Centre, Shabsough Street, Amman Development Building, Tel: 28088 Amman.

Connors, Teltscher advance to Grand Prix semifinals

LOS ANGELES (R) — Top-seeded Jimmy Connors will meet number 13 Ramesh Krishnan and third-seeded Eliot Teltscher will face Dan Goldie in the semi-finals of the \$255,000 men's Grand Prix tennis tournament.

All four players won in straight sets Friday.

Connors, 32, seeking his fourth title here, turned up his game by beating qualifier David Pate 7-5, 6-2 in their first meeting.

Pate has been a professional player for 16 months.

Teltscher, 25, beat unseeded Bruce Manson 6-1, 6-2 by combining good ground strokes with a powerful serve.

Krishnan, 23, eliminated number 12 Peter Fleming 6-3, 6-3, while Goldie, 20, a U.S. junior Davis Cup player and Stanford University student who qualified for the main draw, beat John Frawley of Australia 6-4, 6-4.

Commenting on Pate, 22, who was his ball-boy a few years ago in Las Vegas, Connors said "he is a streaky player."

"He hits a number of good shots. He gets shots that are impossible to get to and then misses shots he should make — but he's a

young guy. He's got time," he added.

Connors jumped to a 3-0 lead with two service breaks. Pate shook off his early jitters and captured the next four games and held a 5-4 lead with two service breaks of his own.

Connors, who said he was mentally exhausted, regained control, broke Pate for a 6-5 lead and served out the set. He then breezed to the straight-set victory after jumping out to a 5-1 lead in the second set.

"I fell asleep at 3-0," Connors said.

Connors said of the semi-final with Krishnan: "We've had some good matches. He has a smooth fluid game. I'll just go out and play my game."

Pate, who will take time of the circuit next week to get married, said: "I was just hoping to survive."

"He's a great player, maybe one of the greatest ever to play the game," he said of Connors.

"Maybe I won't be so nervous next time I play a player of his calibre," the number 126 ranked player added.

USOC head objects to plans to distribute funds

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The head of the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) said Friday he would protest a plan to give part of \$25 million in Olympic reserves to Third World nations if it cuts into the USOC share of a \$150 million surplus.

But Col. F. Donald Miller said that to the best of his knowledge the plan would not jeopardize the USOC's 60 per cent share promised in a contract with the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee (LAOOC).

"If it impacts on any part of the 60 per cent of the net, we would take exception," Miller said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press from USOC headquarters in Colorado Springs.

On Tuesday, LAOOC President Peter V. Ueberroth mentioned the Third World plan and, when asked if the USOC might be shortchanged in the deal, he said: "No, we won't let that happen."

Told of that assurance Friday, Miller said: "Then, there's no problem."

He said the USOC and LAOOC would meet Wednesday and discuss the plan.

"We hope it will be explained," he said, adding that he would decline any further comment until he knows for sure how the funds would be distributed.

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RESULTS OF HORSE RACES
FRIDAY SEPT. 14, 1984

* * * * *

FIRST RACE:

For beginners
Distance: 1,600 metres.
Time: 2 minutes 8 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Saryah	A. El Sattar Matar
2ND:	Nasrah	Nahar Essoyouf
3RD:	Jarrah	Khalid N. El Faiez

SECOND RACE:

For third class horses
Distance: 1,400 metres
Time: 1 minute 48 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	El Mshakar	Talab A. El Kadir
2ND:	Frajih	Mohammad Ahmad
3RD:	F. Naour	Mohammad A. El Hady

THIRD RACE:

For beginners
Distance: 1,000 metres
Time: 1 minute 14 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	El Fayha	Mamdouh El Hadid
2ND:	Sahar Malik	Ghalib A. Jabir
3RD:	Ghazal	Bahjat Fanous

FOURTH RACE:

For third class horses
Distance: 1,600 metres
Time: 2 minutes 1 second

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	El Hanouf	Faisal Awad El Faiez
2ND:	Halimih	Izzat Ghandour
3RD:	Jallab	H.H. Late Sharif Nasir Bin Jamil Stables

FIFTH RACE:

For third and second class horses
Distance: 1,400 metres
Time: 2 minutes 38 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Tair El Ababil	H.H. Late Sharif Naser Ibn Jamil Stables
2ND:	Rabadan	Nimir El Hmoud
3RD:	Nawy	Hany Kamal Bisharat



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CONCORD
Tel: 44092-44280

HANNA K.
(Colour)

Tel: 677420
Performances 3:30, 6:30,
8:30, 10:30

Cinema
AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 22117

THE HERO OF
THE NORTH
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
RAINBOW
Tel: 25155

SUMMER
LOVERS
(Colour)

3:30 8:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema
ZAHARAN
Tel: 23171

THE HARD RACE
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
OPERA

VICTOR
VICTORIA

Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117

1- DOSH BREMO
2- FIERCE MEN &
MONKEY

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198

PRIVATE
SCHOOL
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Workers strike at G.M. plants

DETROIT (R) — Workers at General Motors (G.M.), the world's largest car maker, went on strike at 13 plants in the United States Saturday after negotiations on pay and other issues broke up without agreement.

The strike by just over 60,000 workers of the United Auto Workers union (UAW) was not expected to have an immediate impact on production as the plants are normally closed for the weekend. UAW President Owen Bieber told reporters that the talks, which broke up early Saturday morning, are due to resume at General Motors headquarters in Detroit later Saturday.

"Talks have not broken down completely. We need a few hours of sleep," Bieber said. "As long as we're making progress, we'll continue talking."

The union, one of the largest in the United States, represents 350,000 hourly wage workers at 29 General Motors car and truck plants as well as scores of parts manufacturers.

The union said it would tell its

members not involved in the selective strike called by local union officials to continue working without a contract.

The union's three-year labour contract expired at midnight Friday night.

Mr. Bieber said earlier that negotiators had failed to resolve major issues such as wage increases, job security, and the practice of purchasing parts from non-union operations and from low-cost foreign producers.

Mr. Bieber said that by deferring a nationwide strike, the union considered itself to have demonstrated "our good faith commitment to settle our differences with General Motors."

The union said local strikes were authorised at plants in Michigan, New Jersey, Texas, Missouri, Louisiana, Kentucky, California, Delaware and Georgia.

Union members at the struck factories had been poised to begin picketing while thousands of workers on late-night shifts were notified to walk off the job at midnight.

Banks balk at extending Argentine loan deadline

NEW YORK (R) — Creditor banks have balked at extending the deadline on a \$750 million loan to Argentina, banking sources said Friday.

The banks are refusing the extension because Argentina has failed to reach agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on an austerity programme, the sources said.

The absence of a formal agreement between Argentina and its bankers for a credit extension means interest on the loan will be determined daily, linked with the relatively high cost of short-term funding in the money markets, the sources said.

The banks felt there had been some progress with the IMF but that agreement is not as close as indicated by the recent public utterances of Argentine officials, one source said.

The \$750 million loan was part of a \$1.1 billion bridging loan, originally granted in December, 1982.

Representatives of the Argentine government have told its bank advisory committee that the country is unable to pay the \$750 million dollars, the sources said.

A major obstacle to rolling over the loan is Argentina's massive arrears in interest payments on its \$44 billion foreign debt. This amounts to nearly \$1 billion.

Another stumbling block to agreement on rolling over the loan is lack of certain financial information about the country's economic condition, banking sources said.

An informed monetary sources said that any final pact between Argentina and the IMF would not come about for another week at

the earliest.

Argentine Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun arrives in Washington next week for the IMF-World Bank annual meeting, and he is expected to resume discussions with IMF officials about adopting an austerity programme.

The IMF has not disclosed how much progress has already been made towards reaching an agreement with Argentina. But a monetary source said that until a few days ago, there was still no pact with the country on the key issue of wages.

Mr. Grinspun has been seeking a real wage increase of six to eight per cent, over and above the year-on-year inflation rate of more than 600 per cent but the IMF wants Argentina to hold wage rises below the rate of inflation.

However, the sources said the banks and Argentina might eventually decide to do a deal on the side, whereby the \$750 million is rolled over prior to a full pact with the IMF.

The \$750 million installment of the bridge loan, provided to help the country pay overdue interest on other loans, fell due on April 16 this year. It was first extended to June 15, rolled over on a daily basis until the end of the month and then again extended a further 90 days.

Earlier Friday in Mar Del Plata, Argentina, Mr. Grinspun made clear to reporters that the country could not pay the money back in time to meet Saturday's deadline.

An IMF mission has been in Buenos Aires since late last month in an attempt to reach agreement on an austerity programme.

L. American debtor countries urge West to share debt crisis burden

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina (R) — Latin American debtor countries have issued a call to the industrialised world to accept its share of responsibility for the region's debt crisis and to negotiate before it is too late.

The 11 countries of the Cartagena Group, which between them owe most of Latin America's \$350 billion debt, want a meeting with creditor countries before mid-1985.

In a statement issued Friday night after two days of talks attended by finance and foreign ministers, the 11 countries said dialogue between creditors and debtors was needed to reach an understanding of the problem.

Ministers said they were aware of the reluctance of some industrialised countries to attend a meeting but they believed this could be overcome.

"This opposition is based on a misunderstanding," Argentine

Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun said. "We want cooperation not confrontation."

Mr. Grinspun said the talks were a step forward from the group's first meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, in June when a call for dialogue was also issued, because this time they had made a direct invitation to meet by a certain time.

The countries say they have paid a heavy social price through austerity programmes which have cut economic growth and contributed to unemployment.

It is time for the lending countries, financial institutions and banks to bear their share of the burden, they say.

Friday night's statement said the industrialised countries must take urgent action to reduce interest rates which were hampering economic growth in the developing world.

It said the Cartagena meeting called for a cut in the rates, but immediately afterwards they rose even further. Although they had since stabilised, they were still above historical averages, it added.

Before the call for dialogue, the U.S. Treasury said the United States was prepared to talk through existing channels but was not willing to attend a conference on Latin America's debts.

In a clear reference to the rescheduling agreement between Mexico, one of the countries represented here, and commercial banks, it said progress was being made on a case by case basis.

Latin American countries have countered by saying they note the loss of urgency on the part of the

industrialised countries over the need to solve the debt problem.

They said it had not yet led to serious destabilisation of the international financial system, but its effect on the economies of developing countries was growing.

Mexico's rescheduling agreement, with its longer repayment terms, goes some way towards meeting the conditions called for at Cartagena.

Mexican Finance Minister Jesus Silva Herzog said Friday it did not solve the matter of the debt itself.

"We are only in the second round of a 15-round fight," he said.

The countries' statement said signs of economic recovery were largely confined to industrialised countries, whose economic policies continued to affect the chances for economic growth elsewhere.

Unless recovery spread to all countries, there was a threat of a serious international crisis, it added.

Alia to issue credit cards for tickets, passenger services

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and Petra Bank have drawn up a joint plan to issue an "Alia Credit Card" which is expected to be issued as of Oct. 1.

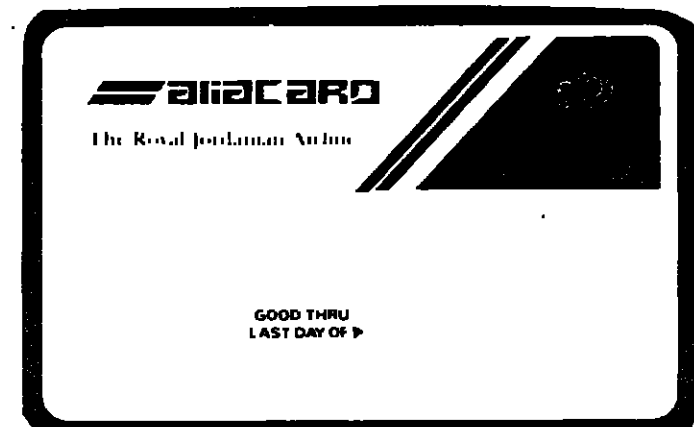
Contrary to the normal practice of levying a nominal charge on credit cards, the Alia Credit Card will be issued free of any charges to passengers whose financial standing passes Petra Bank's scrutiny. Application for the cards will be available at all Alia offices throughout the world and on board Alia flights. The applications are to be submitted to Alia which will refer them to Petra Bank for approval.

The move to issue the cards was prompted by the advantage that airline would have in terms of immediate payment by Petra Bank on tickets issued on the basis of the card. Alia Vice-President (Finance) Fahed Faneek told the Jordan Times. The cards would also alleviate the airlines' burden of maintaining "heavy personal accounts," Dr. Faneek said.

The credit card will enable holders to avail of all Alia services including the airlines' duty free shops, in-flight services, restaurants and a hotel shortly to be opened near the Queen Alia International Airport, Mr. Faneek said.

Any permanent resident of Jordan, regardless of his or her nationality, can apply for and obtain the Alia card, he said. However, it is the sole responsibility of Petra Bank to scrutinise and approve applicants' credit rating and financial standing before issuing the card, he added.

Under the scheme Alia will



have to maintain only the accounts of travel agents and other airlines apart from a centralised account for the cards, he explained.

Also, passengers will be benefited from a "travel now, pay later" plan by Petra Bank under which payment for Alia tickets could be made in instalments, Mr. Faneek pointed out. In addition, passengers who travel by tickets purchased by the card will have an additional insurance coverage of \$150,000, he said.

Alia will issue tickets on all sectors the airlines is operating currently as well as other routes on which the airlines' tickets are

valid.

"In effect, the card will be as good as cash with no difference in cost of tickets, or any other benefit to the passenger under the present Alia system," Dr. Faneek added.

Initially, Alia hopes to issue 2,000 cards monthly, and once the scheme is fully introduced, the airline expects the number to go up. Mr. Faneek estimates that the scheme, with its additional advantage of "travel now, pay later" plan, Alia will be able to sell around 50,000 tickets to various destinations during first year after the introduction of the card.

U.S. prices, sales slow

WASHINGTON (R) — Further evidence that the buoyant U.S. economy may have lost some of its vigour was provided Friday with announcements of a decline in wholesale prices and retail sales in August.

U.S. wholesale prices dropped in August for the first time since last November, with a fall of 0.1 per cent, while retail sales dropped 0.8 per cent, the administration reported.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said in a statement: "Consumer spending will contribute modestly to growth in the third quarter after robust gains during the first half."

Israeli inflation rockets

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis braced for tough inflation measures Friday as grim inflation figures underlined the economic crisis facing the new government of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Only hours after Mr. Peres took office, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported that inflation last month rocketed 16.5 per cent, a record for August.

The prime minister cut short inauguration ceremonies. After formally presenting his nine-party coalition to President Chaim Herzog, he returned to his office and summoned economic advisers.

Among them was Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai who told reporters some "correcting measures" would be taken immediately, before the cabinet debates a long-term austerity programme.

August is traditionally a low inflation month and the size of last month's jump shocked economists. It was more than double the August 1983 figure of 7.2 per cent and took inflation for the last 12 months to 394 per cent.

Economists predict the 1984 annual figure will be well in excess of 400 per cent and are calling for huge cuts in government spending.

The Labour Party leader said the government would have to take some painful measures to save the economy.

He tried to calm rumours that so-called "patron bank accounts" — local shekel accounts linked to the dollar — may be taxed. Mr. Peres said his government would not hurt savings.

FAO reduces 1984 world cereal forecast

ROME (R) — The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Friday reduced its forecast for world cereal production this year by 19 million tonnes to 1,756 million tonnes because of bad weather in four main producing countries.

The United Nations agency's monthly Food Outlook said the new figure was 119 million tonnes more than last year's crop.

The FAO said the Soviet cereal crop was expected to fall by six million tonnes to 184 million tonnes because of erratic weather and harvesting difficulties and the figure could drop further as the harvest progressed.

Grain production in Canada was expected to be less than originally estimated because of unusually hot and dry conditions in the southern prairies, and parts of the United States maize-growing belt could be affected by drought.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 16, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you will really have a chance to live the Golden Rule — not just mouth it. You will want to dash off into new avenues of expression which would be most unwise.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be careful not to act hastily and too impulsively or you will get into trouble and make mistakes during the daytime.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Elevate your consciousness to greater attainments and tonight avoid arguing with others, especially at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have not thought out well enough just how to gain a wish that is vital to you, so study this further.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may have to contend with outside conditions but take them in your stride.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your own ideas seem to meet with disappointment, so study them further and iron out the wrinkles in time.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your hunches will not help you in solving some problem, so use only mature judgment and get good results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Talks with partners today would not produce the right results, so postpone until a better time and day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan how best to handle problematical affairs at your job, but don't start on them as yet.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to get your health and appearance improved today and forget usual Sunday pleasures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't start any arguments at home during the day or you could have a royal battle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study into lofty concepts in the morning and be sure in the evening not to argue at home.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Important you learn to economize more at this time so forget expensive pleasures. Avoid a neighbor who causes you to spend too much.

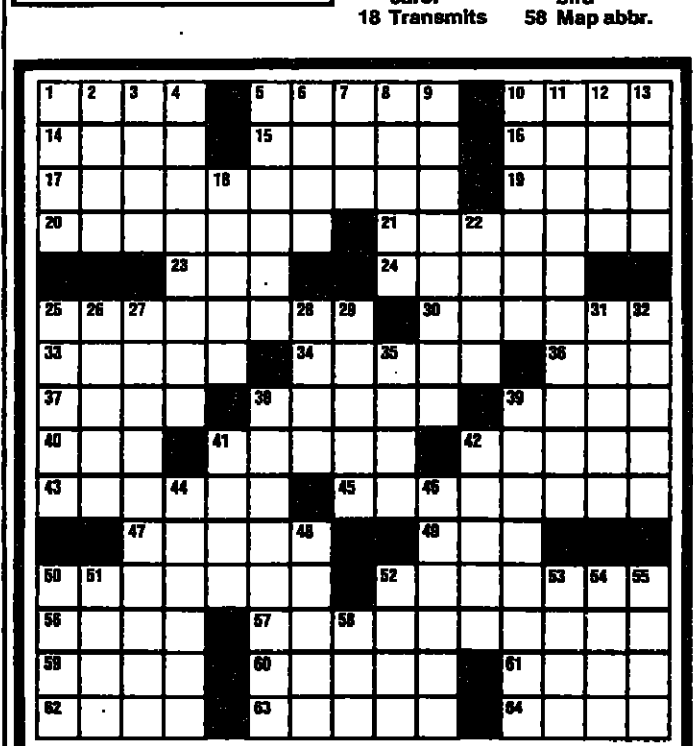
IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she should have more rest than other children since the nature is apt to be very sensitive and nervous but with a quick mind and will be great during times of emergency. Later your progeny will do fine at school and be successful.

THE Daily Crossword

by Adda Grayson

ACROSS	25 Fragments	50 Forecast	22 Chemical
1 Biblical	30 Is stimulated	52 Chin. boats	25 Fr. coin
5 "— to bury	33 Pygmies	56 Diving	26 Santa
Caesar"	34 Ring stones	bird	27 Purposes
10 Scrutinize	36 Make lace	57 Forecast	28 Certain
14 Dark	37 Biblical	In Name?	29 Part of a
15 Water	book	58 — Ferber	book
16 Mallet	38 Dismal	60 Money	31 Fortune-
game	39 Fatigue	spent	telling
17 Southwest	40 Never, to	61 Papal	card
forecast?	Hans	tribunal	32 Paces
19 Kitty feed	41 Hair dye	62 Slight	35 Author
20 Sound	42 Boy Scout	strand	Milne
systems	group	63 Verdant	36 Forecast in
21 City	43 Show dance	64 Mule pair	Northwest?
(Rome)	45 Puts a	DOWN	38 Heavily
23 Raggedy —	spell on	1 Turns grass	walkers
24 Fr. income	47 Leg bones	to dry	41 Ger. moun-
	49 Cane liquor	3 — of Sharon	tack range
		4 Those par-	44 Forty
		ticulating	winks
		5 Chant	46 Stick for
		6 Cote sounds	drawing
		7 Bobby of	48 "Peace —
		hockey	time"
		8 Clown	50 Puffed
		9 Like some	51 Cal. city
		winds	52 Safekeep-
		10 Ancient	ing: abbr.
		Gr. city	53 Cooked
		11 Link	54 — bene
		12 Can. prov.	55 Graceful
		13 Christmas	bird
		18 Transmits	58 Map abbr.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:	ACROSS	DOWN
1. BIBLICAL	25. FRAGMENTS	1. TURNS GRASS TO DRY
5. CAESAR	30. IS STIMULATED	3. OF SHARON
10. SCRUTINIZE	33. PYGMIES	4. THOSE PARTICULATING
14. DARK	34. RING STONES	5. CHANT
15. WATER	36. MAKE LACE	6. COTE SOUNDS
16. MALLET	37. BIBLICAL	7. BOBBY OF HOCKEY
17. SOUTHWEST	38. DISMAL	8. CLOWN
19. KITTY FEED	39. FATIGUE	9. LIKE SOME WINDS
20. SOUND	40. NEVER, TO HANS	10. ANCIENT GR. CITY
21. CITY	41. HAIR DYE	11. LINK
(ROME)	42. BOY SCOUT GROUP	12. CAN. PROV.
23. RAGGEDY	43. SHOW DANCE	13. CHRISTMAS
24. FR. INCOME	45. PUTS A SPELL ON	18. TRANSMITS
	47. LEG BONES	
	49. CANE LIQUOR	



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THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

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The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Inc.

"I'm on the 'Wonder Diet!' You eat 300 calories a day, then you WONDER how long it will take before you crack up!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RUJOR

YIXTS

LYNKIG

PEROOC

WHAT YOU'RE LIKELY TO TAKE WHEN YOU'RE INVITED TO DINNER BY WITCHES.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VOUGH IDIOM BRAZEN GROTTO
Answer: How did the trumpet player manage to get into that exclusive party? — HE "HORNED" IN

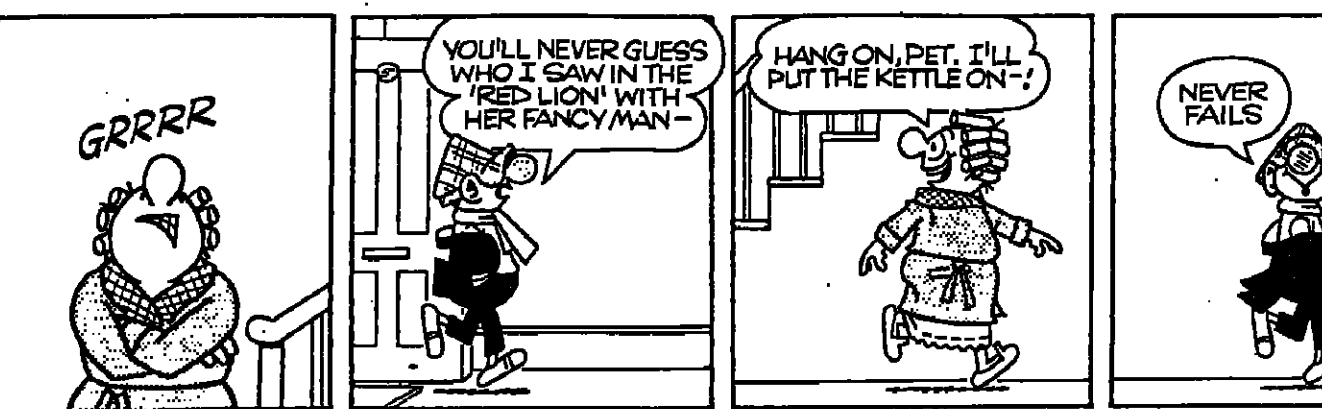
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Soviets recall pact with Hitler to explain Reagan-Gromyko talks

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Saturday recalled the non-aggression pact it signed with Hitler in 1939 in what was regarded by diplomats as an attempt to explain its decision to start a dialogue with President Reagan.

A commentary published by the Official News Agency TASS said Moscow had been forced to make a deal with the Nazi dictator because it was trying to avert a war and in any case needed time to improve its defences. The lessons from that period were still relevant today, it said.

Western diplomats said the phrasing of the commentary made it clear the Kremlin was trying to draw parallels between Hitler and Reagan and to show that Moscow was faced with a similar situation in 1984 as it had been in 1939.

"It looks like a somewhat contrived way of trying to explain why they have decided to start talking to Mr. Reagan after attacking him as a dangerous enemy for so long," one said.

Foreign Minister Andrei Gro-

myko is due to meet Mr. Reagan in the White House on Sept. 28 for the first talks between the U.S. leader and a senior Kremlin official since the president took office.

The 1939 non-aggression treaty, commonly referred to as the Hitler-Stalin Pact, stunned the world. Until then relations between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union had been marked by intense ideological hostility.

TASS said Saturday Western critics at the time were wrong to believe that Moscow was fooled by Hitler or changed its attitude towards him.

"They asked how the USSR could believe Hitler, who never concealed his claims to military superiority and announced a crusade against all who did not wish

to accept voluntarily the Nazi way of life," it said.

The phrasing appeared to have been chosen to allude to present-day relations with the United States, diplomats said.

Soviet commentaries have repeatedly accused Mr. Reagan of seeking military superiority and of launching a crusade against countries refusing to adopt an American way of life.

The commentary was published on the agency's international service and was not carried in Soviet newspapers.

The Soviet public has not been told about the Gromyko-Reagan talks. A Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed the meeting at a press conference Friday but newspapers omitted his comments in their reports Saturday.

Moscow rarely mentions the Hitler-Stalin pact, and diplomats said the fact that TASS had recalled it made it clear the commentary was intended to convey a contemporary message.



A local road is cut off by landslide triggered by a 'severe' earthquake that struck the mountain village of Otaki in central Japan on Friday morning (AP wirephoto)

27 still missing as fresh quakes hit Japan

NAGANO, Japan (Agencies) — Fresh earthquakes jolted central Japan Saturday, hampering the search for 27 people missing after a major tremor Friday.

Police said the body of a woman was found, bringing the death toll to two.

Eight fresh tremors hampered the search for the missing in the mountain village of Otaki in Nagano prefecture on the main island of Honshu, police said.

The Meteorological Agency said it believed the quakes were aftershocks of Friday's quake which measured 6.9 on the Richter Scale and shook wide areas of Japan.

One jolt Saturday measured 6.4 and another 5.6 the epicentres were near Otaki.

As recovery teams found the body of the second known victim, a 67-year-old woman, authorities said five people earlier listed as

missing had turned up safe, while five others — not previously known to have been in the area — were added to the list. The total numbers of people unaccounted for stood at 27. The body of a 65-year-old man was recovered Friday.

At the same time, a senior fire and disaster prevention official said 80 campers, who had been isolated at a recreation centre more than 2,000 metres up Mt. Ontake, were rescued by Japan Self Defence Force helicopters and were safe. They had not been listed as missing.

Two sharp aftershocks struck the area on Saturday morning, one of them apparently touching off a new landslide near the Village of Otaki, where Friday's "severe" tremor triggered slides that swept away homes and roadways, apparently burying some of the victims alive.

50 hurt, 300 arrested during Indian strike

NEW DELHI (AP) — About 300 demonstrators were arrested and 50 wounded Saturday in clashes with police in the southern Andhra Pradesh state during a general strike called by opposition parties demanding reinstatement of the state's ousted chief minister, police said.

A spokesman for the state police in the South Indian state capital Hyderabad told the Associated Press by telephone that the strike had paralysed many parts of the state of 45 million people.

The shutdown halted traffic in Hyderabad and closed shops, businesses and schools, said the spokesman, who spoke only on condition he not be identified by name.

There were no specific reports on the success of the strike outside Hyderabad.

The State Transportation Corporation cancelled all city services but maintained a minimum service in outlying districts.

The strikers were protesting the Aug. 16 dismissal by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government of former movie idol Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, who had led a state government opposed to Mrs. Gandhi.

They burned at least six buses and hurled rocks at police in southern Andhra Pradesh, the spokesman reported. Police reportedly used metal-tipped bamboo staves and tear gas to scatter the rioting protesters. At least 28 demonstrators and 22 police were hurt in the violence state-wide, the spokesman said.

In Hyderabad, Police Commissioner R. Prabhakara Rao said three shops and a bus were set on fire and 72 people were taken into custody. He said the situation in the deserted capital was under control except for some incidents of arson.

The State governor, Mrs. Gandhi's appointee, dismissed Mr. Rama Rao claiming he had lost his majority in the 250-member state assembly. The governor refused to convene the assembly to allow Mr. Rama Rao to prove his claim that he holds a majority.

Votes of confidence were postponed for three consecutive days in the state assembly last week. Mr. Rama Rao supporters said N. Bhaskara Rao, the new chief minister, still cannot muster a majority and Mr. Rama Rao has more than 160 legislators in his camp.

U.S. sees no sign of Indian attack on Pakistan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The State Department said Friday it had been concerned by recent signs of "cooling" in relations between India and Pakistan but said it did not believe a conflict was imminent.

Spokesman Alan Romberg was responding to questions about press reports of a possible conflict, including an Indian attack on Pakistani nuclear facilities.

Mr. Romberg said, "we have been concerned in recent weeks by suggestions of a temporary cooling in Indo-Pakistani relations".

He listed cancellation of scheduled non-aggression talks, ceasefire-line clashes in Kashmir, public recriminations over the handling of hijackers, and allegations of meddling in each other's affairs.

But he added: "We do not believe that conflict between the two countries as reported by the press was imminent."

One report quoted American senators as saying U.S. officials had told them of the possibility of

an Indian attack on Pakistani nuclear facilities.

But Mr. Romberg indicated the State Department assessment of the situation was that this would not happen.

American intelligence sources, who insisted on anonymity said two recent reports by the Central Intelligence Agency cited heightened tensions on the border between the two countries which have fought three wars in the past 37 years. But the agency did not depict the situation as an imminent problem.

The sources said, however, a report by one CIA agent claimed that about two weeks ago the Indian government was actively considering a pre-emptive strike against the Pakistan nuclear research facility at Kahute, near the Indian border.

Deepak Vohra, press attache at the Indian embassy in Washington called that suggestion "rubbish" but declined comment on the question of worsening relations between the two countries.

Seoul agrees to discuss North Korea flood aid

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea agreed Saturday to a North Korean proposal that Red Cross talks be held Tuesday on an offer of flood aid from the North in the South.

The South Korean Red Cross announced Friday that North Korea's offer would be accepted as a possible step towards opening some sort of South-North dialogue.

A few hours later, North Korea proposed that the talks be held Tuesday in the truce village of Panmunjom in the demilitarised

zone that divides Korea. Panmunjom is the site where the Military Armistice Commission, set up at the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, meets and where other meetings have been held aimed at eventual unification of the peninsula. Acceptance of the Tuesday meeting date was announced Saturday night.

He said the South will send a five-member delegation to Panmunjom Tuesday to meet with five-member North Korean delegation.

Shultz accuses Nicaragua of smuggling drugs to U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz accused Nicaragua and Communist countries including Cuba of smuggling drugs to the United States.

"It is part of a larger pattern of international lawlessness by Communist nations that, as we have seen, also includes support for international terrorism and other forms of organised violence against legitimate government," he said.

Mr. Shultz speculated in a speech to the Miami Chamber of Commerce Friday that the aim was to finance arms for insurgents and terrorists and to "weaken the fabric of Western democratic society."

He noted that the U.S. gov-

ernment had charged Frederico Vaughan, an assistant to Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge, and two Colombians with conspiring to smuggle 1,500 kilograms of cocaine into the United States.

He said circumstances indicated that other Nicaraguan officials were involved.

He said the drug traffickers had been allowed to park their plane in the restricted military section of Managua Airport.

He said Cuba helped a Colombian drug smuggler supply narcotics to the United States and that the smuggler in return supplied weapons to the M-19 left-wing guerrilla organisation in Colombia.

British dock strike talks set for today

LONDON (R) — Talks to end a marathon strike in Britain's troubled state-run coal industry have collapsed in their eighth round, but a three-week dock dispute looks slightly nearer solution.

The coal talks, the first negotiations in two months, broke down Friday after failure to agree a draft settlement on when loss-making pits may be shut down.

This point has repeatedly caused stalemate in meetings between the 180,000-strong National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and the coal board to resolve the dispute.

The strike began six months ago when the NUM rejected a plan by the board to close 20 mines it regards as uneconomic.

Martial law to stay until elections, Ershad says

DHAKA (R) — President Hosain Mohammad Ershad said Saturday Bangladesh would remain under martial law until parliamentary elections due in December, but it could be eased gradually.

He told reporters before leaving for a three-day official visit to Iraq that when he returned he might meet opposition leaders to discuss their demands for ending military rule and appointing an interim government to conduct the elections.

A deadline set by the country's two main opposition alliances for accepting their conditions expired

Saturday. The alliances, led by Sheikh Hasina Wazed and Begum Khaleda Zia, planned to start anti-government demonstrations Sunday.

Demonstrators would meet outside district administrators' offices throughout the country to protest against government apathy towards opposition demands, the alliances said.

They also want all 13 members of the government-backed Jangad Party to leave Gen. Ershad's 27-member cabinet, saying this would reduce chances of government interference in the elections.

Ozal warns U.S. against discussing Armenian issue

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal warned the United States that relations between Ankara and Washington could be irreparably harmed by U.S. congressional discussion of the massacre of Armenians in 1915.

In a statement to the semi-official Anatolian News Agency Mr. Ozal described as inconsiderate a resolution passed this week by the House of Representatives calling for a day to commemorate the killings.

Mr. Ozal also criticised a call from the Senate Foreign Relations

Committee that the United States take account of the incidents in its foreign policy.

Armenians say 1.5 million of their people were massacred in Turkey in 1915 but successive Turkish governments have denied the charge and the issue is a highly sensitive one.

Actions based on short-term political gain, Mr. Ozal said, created situations where relations between nations were difficult or impossible to repair. "Recent history has witnessed such situations when long-term interest of countries have been badly damaged."

U.N. General Assembly to face 'familiar chronic problems'

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations General Assembly opens next week faced with what a top U.N. official called "the familiar chronic problems of the world" — ranging from the Middle East to disarmament.

"There is no significant departure on any major topic in terms of assembly debate from those we have seen in previous years," said William Buffum, an American who serves as undersecretary-general for General Assembly affairs.

He said likely issues were the Middle East, Kampuchea, Afghanistan, the Falkland Islands, South African apartheid, Namibia (South-West Africa), Cyprus and Central America as well as the economic problems of development, debt and a more equitable sharing of the world's resources.

Mr. Buffum said of 142 items on the assembly agenda, only four are new.

—The critical economic situation in Africa, brought to the assembly by a decision of the U.N. Economic and Social Council.

—The problem of expansion in the amount of arid and desert land, as well as widespread problems of drought, brought to the assembly's attention by Senegal.

—A draft resolution on the fight on all peoples to peace, proposed by Mongolia.

—And a suggestion by Antigua and Barbuda that the United Nations celebrate the 150th anniversary of emancipation of slaves in the British empire.

An Arab ambassador, who preferred not to be named, said the Middle East debate would not take place until November, during which time he said several events

should occur that could tend to strengthen the Arab position.

He said the Palestine National Congress (PNC), ruling body of the Palestinian Arabs, will have met by then and the U.S. elections will be over, freeing Washington from domestic political pressures from the Middle East.

In addition, he said there may be an Arab summit in November giving the Arabs a chance to reconcile their differences. And there may be movement towards Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, which Israel's new premier, Shimon Peres, has said will be a top priority of his administration.

However, the Arab ambassador said there are still basic disagreements on the issues of a homeland for displaced Palestinians and Israeli-occupied Arab land, which he said should engender bitter debates.

A recent statement by the Vietnamese foreign minister indicates there might be a new element in the dispute on Kampuchea now occupied by 130,000 Vietnamese soldiers bolstering the Soviet-backed government of Heng Samrin.

The minister said Vietnam is ready to discuss a settlement under which Vietnamese troop withdrawal would be coupled with free elections supervised by the United Nations.

The elections would be contested by the opposition coalition of democratic Kampuchea headed by Prince Sihanouk which is recognised as the legitimate government by the United Nations.

Disarmament will be a major topic, with dozens of resolutions to be considered, but the United Nations remains on the periphery

of real disarmament activity.

In 1982 the United Nations tried a major disarmament effort in a special session of the assembly which drew 19 heads of state and about 50 foreign ministers, but which ended without any significant achievement.

One reason was the U.S. view that disarmament progress is only possible in bilateral or regional talks among countries who control the arms — and away from what it believes is irrelevant rhetoric at the assembly.

The 38th session of the assembly officially will end Monday with outgoing President Jorge Illueca of Panama summing up.

The 39th session opens Tuesday with Ambassador Paul Lusaka of Zambia as president.

The general debate will open Sept. 24.



Tribesmen arrive for Princess' wedding

FEZ, Morocco (AP) — Tens of thousands of mounted tribesmen, folk dancers and dignitaries converged on Morocco's religious capital Friday for the marriage of Princess Laila Hassan II, eldest daughter of King Hassan II. In accordance with an ancient tradition of the Moroccan monarchy, 235 young couples, five from each of the nation's 47 provinces — are to be married in the Royal Palace in Fez on Sunday at the same time the 22-year-old Princess marries Faoud Filali, 28, son of Information Minister Abdullatif Filali. Also to be wed is the king's niece, Lalla Zoubida, and the son of Morocco's ambassador to France, Youssef Belabbas. The festivities, the most elaborate seen in Morocco in more than 20 years, were expected to begin Saturday and continue for five days. More than 60,000 tribesmen from throughout the North African country were camped in tents on the outskirts of the city to attend the festivities. Invited guests included Queen Sophia of Spain.

Arabs seek to live in Brunei

KUWAIT (R) — Arabs throughout the Gulf are stampeding to try to emigrate to the wealthy South East Asian Sultanate of Brunei, spurred by reports of big cash handouts and high salaries. A spokesman for the British embassy here said Saturday that British immigration officials in the region have been deluged with such applications in the past few weeks. Local residents say rumors have swept the Gulf that Brunei wanted to boost its workforce, and was offering national, a lump sum of \$40,000 on arrival, high salaries and attractive living conditions. "Tens of thousands of Palestinians, Lebanese and Yemenis have applied to immigrate to Brunei," the Arabic newspaper Al Seyassah reported. British officials are advising applicants to apply directly to Brunei, which gained independence from Britain last year.

Boston woman gets heart from Bermuda

BOSTON (R) — A 23-year-old Boston woman Friday received the heart of a man who died in a car crash in Bermuda. A hospital spokesman said Donna Roberts was in critical but stable condition following a three-hour operation. She also had heart operations when she was 20 months old and in 1980. A team of doctors flew here with the heart of Earl Ming, 20, as another team prepared Roberts for surgery.

\$2 million swindler acquitted

MUNICH (R) — A gambler accused of swindling a Bavarian casino out of 6.7 million marks (\$2.2 million) by tampering with a roulette wheel has been acquitted by a Munich court for lack of evidence. The judge told Vladimir Granez, known as "Goldfinger", he had escaped conviction by less than a hair's breadth although by no means had he been proved innocent. The prosecution alleged that Granez and an unidentified employee at the casino at the resort town of Bad Wiessee had adjusted the height of the ridges between the numbered slots of the wheel to control the direction of the spinning ball. The judge granted Granez, a Czechoslovak-born former journalist, compensation for time spent in custody.

Sisters jailed for plot to kill husbands

DALLAS (R) — Two sisters who admitted plotting to kill their husbands were each sentenced to 15 years in jail despite pleas for clemency from the two intended victims. Dorothy Scrivano, 53, and Lawayne Bancker, 45, pleaded guilty to trying to hire a contract killer for \$15,000 to kill their husbands for insurance money. Frank Scrivano, 56, a federal official, and Adrian Bancker, 64, a retired air force officer, asked the court to free their wives on probation, insisting their lives had never been in danger. State District Court Judge Ed Kinkade refused clemency, saying the only remorse the sisters had expressed was that they had been caught.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

1984 Tribune Company Syndicate Inc.
USE YOUR TRUMPS WISELY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A105
♥ 963
♦ A108632
♣ A
EAST
♠ 97
♥ J10512
♦ KQ
♣ 109764
SOUTH
♠ KQJ362
♥ A87
♦ K5
♣ J5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

There are many tales about bridge players wandering barefoot about the streets of London because they failed to draw trumps. But there are twice as many unshod in New York for drawing trumps when they needed them for other purposes.

South had to choose between a jump rebid of three spades or the more conservative simple rebid. He chose the latter, but then became bullish when his partner could lead to four spades at his second turn. In turn, North valued his three aces highly, and when South showed slam interest with

his five heart cue-bid, North was more than willing.

West elected to lead the unbid suit. That was a surprisingly effective attack since it removed a key entry to the table. Declarer drew two rounds of trumps, then started on diamonds. When that suit split 4-1, declarer found that he was an entry short to set up and cash his long diamonds, so he ended up down one.

Declarer could not afford the luxury of spending dummy's trumps prematurely — they might be needed for entries. After winning the ace of clubs, declarer can afford to draw one round of trumps with a high trump from hand. Then he should cash the king of diamonds.

If both defenders follow low, declarer continues with a diamond and, assuming West follows, he goes up with the ace. This caters to the possibility that East started with singletons in both diamonds and trumps. If East produces a diamond honor on the first round of the suit, declarer should draw a second round of trumps and then lead a diamond to the ten. And if West shows out on the second diamond, as is the case here, the slam is assured regardless of whether or not West ruffs. Declarer has enough entries to establish and cash the long diamonds on the board. Try it.